

## Public attitudes toward crime and criminal justice-related topics

Each year numerous public opinion surveys in the United States focus on criminal justice topics. These surveys are conducted by polling and research organizations as part of general social surveys or specifically for public and private organizations. Other surveys are conducted by government agencies or commissions concerned with specific problems. Selected populations such as high school seniors, college students, or parents often are the focus of these efforts. Results from this wide variety of opinion polls, examining attitudes toward a myriad of criminal justice issues, are presented in this section.

Initially addressed are public perceptions of important problems and issues such as crime and violence, and problems facing respondents' local communities. Included in this series are questions focusing on teenagers' attitudes and behaviors (e.g., most important problems for their age group and factors determining whether a teenager tries illegal drugs). Additional tables explore school-related concerns including the presence of crime and drugs at school, and beliefs about the underlying causes of increased school violence. Focus then shifts to attitudes toward school weapons policies. Tables displaying attitudes about parental responsibility for crimes committed by their children are included in this section as well.

The next series of tables relates to the confidence people express in numerous institutions including the criminal justice system, as a whole, and in the police and the U.S. Supreme Court, specifically. Ratings of several aspects of the prison system in the United States also are displayed. Ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers, police, and judges are presented, as are various measures of police performance and behavior (e.g., treatment of persons of different races, respondents' fear police will stop and arrest them when innocent, officers striking a citizen, and police brutality).

Perceptions of the level of crime in the country, and in the respondent's own area, are the topics of the next set of tables. Information is presented on feelings of safety walking alone and at home at night. Reports of whether respondents engaged in selected behaviors, such as buying a gun for protection, or carrying mace or pepper spray, because of their concern over crime also are included. Public perceptions of factors contributing to crime and violence such as the influence of popular culture and the availability of guns are covered. Several tables assess attitudes concerning the effective-

ness of measures to reduce the crime and drug problems (e.g., legislation, drug treatment, level of spending, and severity of courts). Attitudes toward the availability of criminal records of juveniles and exoffenders and the treatment of juveniles who commit violent crimes are included.

The focus of the section then shifts to public attitudes toward capital punishment. There are many tables on perceptions about the death penalty and people convicted of murder as well as those serving life without parole. Also explored are rationales given by respondents for supporting the death penalty and beliefs about the deterrent effect of the death penalty.

Many public opinion surveys have examined the firearms and gun control issues, and the next series of tables presents attitudes on these topics. Tables report on the prevalence of gun ownership and use, attitudes toward numerous gun control measures, and legislation covering the sale and possession of firearms.

Attitudes about the legalization of marijuana, doctors prescribing marijuana for medical purposes, and the harmfulness of drug use have been examined among several populations, including the general public, teenagers, high school seniors, and young adults. This segment of the section presents a large number of tables drawn from the results of several student surveys including the Monitoring the Future Project. Included are students' attitudes about selected social problems, such as the availability and harmfulness of both alcohol and drug use. Annual surveys of high school seniors examine their attitudes and beliefs about social problems, crime and violence, the performance of police and the courts, harmfulness of drug and alcohol use and cigarette smoking, perceptions of the availability of drugs, and the legalization of marijuana. Attitudes of eighth and tenth graders toward alcohol and drug use and cigarette smoking and perceptions of the availability of drugs also are included. A survey of college freshman mirrors many of the issues explored among high school students, and further asks about legalization of marijuana, the rights of criminal defendants, drug testing, the death penalty, and gun control. The section concludes with presentations of public attitudes on the distribution of pornography, and the legality of homosexual relations and abortion.

When available, survey results are displayed by demographic characteristics of respondents—age, sex, race, income, and occupation—enabling comparisons across social dimensions. Some questions have been asked repeatedly over time and, whenever possible, these trends are presented.

Two appendices outline survey sampling procedures, methodology, and definitions of terms used in the surveys. Appendix 4 describes procedures used in The Gallup Poll, the Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Education Poll, the Harris Poll, and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. Also in Appendix 4 is a description of the General Social Survey (GSS) conducted by the National Opinion Research Center. The GSS is a survey of a national probability sample and has been conducted since 1972. Appendix 5 describes the Monitoring the Future Project, a series of surveys focusing on the behaviors and attitudes of high school seniors and young adults. This project has been conducted annually since 1975 by the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. Beginning in 1991, eighth and tenth grade students also have been included in that survey.

Readers should be aware that many factors, including slight differences in the wording of survey questions, may have significant effects on responses. In addition, the margin of error for survey results, presented in Appendix 4, may vary slightly between surveys. Thus, attention to the exact wording of questions and the appropriate estimate of error always should accompany comparisons.

Table 2.1

**Attitudes toward the most important problem facing the country**

United States, 1982-2001

Question: "What do you think is the most important problem facing this country today?"

	Oct. 15-18, 1982	Oct. 7-10, 1983	Feb. 10-13, 1984	Jan. 25-28, 1985	July 11-14, 1986	Apr. 10-13, 1987	Sept. 9-11, 1988	May 4-7, 1989	July 19-22, 1990	Mar. 7-10, 1991	Mar. 26-29, 1992	Jan. 8-11, 1993	Jan. 15-17, 1994	Jan. 16-18, 1995	May 9-12, 1996	Jan. 10-13, 1997	Apr. 17-19, 1998	Sept. 14-15, 1998	May 23-24, 1999	Mar. 10-12, 2000	Jan. 10-14, 2001
High cost of living; inflation; taxes	18%	12%	10%	11%	4%	5%	2%	3%	2%	2%	8%	4%	4%	7%	11%	6%	7%	5%	3%	13%	6%
Unemployment	61	41	29	20	23	13	9	6	3	8	25	22	18	15	13	NA	5	4	4	2	4
International problems; foreign affairs	2	7	11	NA	NA	NA	4	4	NA	1	3	8	3	2	4	3	4	6	3	4	4
Crime; violence	3	5	4	4	3	3	2	6	1	2	5	9	37	27	25	23	20	10	17	13	9
Guns/gun control	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(a)	NA	NA	1	(a)	10	7	1
Fear of war/nuclear war; international tensions	3	14	11	27	22	23	5	2	1	2	NA	NA	NA	(a)	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	(a)
Ethics, moral, family decline	3	5	7	2	3	5	1	5	2	2	5	7	8	6	14	9	16	15	18	15	13
Excessive government spending; Federal budget deficit	4	4	12	18	13	11	12	7	21	8	8	13	5	14	15	8	5	2	1	4	1
Dissatisfaction with government	3	2	2	NA	NA	5	NA	2	1	NA	8	5	6	5	12	7	8	14	5	11	9
Economy (general)	11	4	5	6	7	10	12	8	7	24	42	35	14	10	12	21	6	12	3	6	7
Poverty; hunger; homelessness	NA	NA	NA	6	6	5	7	10	7	10	15	15	11	10	7	10	10	6	7	5	4
Drugs; drug abuse	NA	NA	NA	2	8	11	11	27	18	11	8	6	9	6	10	17	12	9	5	5	7
Trade deficit; trade relations	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	3	1	1	4	3	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	(a)
Education; quality of education	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	3	2	2	8	8	7	5	13	10	13	13	11	16	12
Environment; pollution	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	5	2	3	3	1	1	3	1	2	1	2	2	2
AIDS	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	2	(a)	3	2	2	1	(a)	1	1	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Abortion	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	(a)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1	0	1	1	(a)	(a)	2	1
Health care	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	12	18	20	12	10	7	6	6	5	8	7
No opinion; don't know	2	4	4	3	3	4	12	7	5	6	2	2	2	2	7	6	4	8	2	6	8

Note: Exact wording of response categories varies across surveys. Multiple responses are possible; the Source records up to three problems per respondent. Some problems mentioned by a small percentage of respondents are not included in the table. Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,004 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Jan. 10-14, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: George H. Gallup, *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 198, p. 27; Report No. 226, p. 17; Report No. 235, pp. 20, 21; Report No. 252, pp. 28, 29; Report No. 260, pp. 6, 7; Report No. 277, pp. 6, 7; Report No. 285, pp. 4, 5; Report No. 290, p. 6 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll*, Mar. 14, 1991, pp. 2, 3; Apr. 3, 1992, pp. 1, 2; Jan. 30, 1997, p. 2 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 298, p. 14; No. 340, p. 43; No. 352, p. 7; No. 396, p. 34 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr990528.asp> [July 20, 1999]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000331.asp> [Mar. 31, 2000]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010205.asp> [Feb. 5, 2001]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.2

**Attitudes toward important issues for the government to address**

United States, 1993-2000

Question: "What do you think are the two most important issues for the government to address?"

Issue	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Federal deficit	11%	11%	18%	22%	19%	12%	5%	5%
Health care	55	30	16	16	9	11	10	15
Crime/violence	12	37	16	16	17	13	7	11
Gun control	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	8
The economy <sup>a</sup>	13	12	10	14	6	9	8	7
Education	8	10	9	14	14	14	17	21
Welfare	3	9	12	13	12	8	3	3
Taxes	11	14	11	11	11	16	9	12
Employment/jobs	14	10	6	9	6	3	3	3
Programs for the elderly	3	4	7	6	2	1	1	3
Domestic/social issues <sup>a</sup>	8	5	5	4	3	3	3	3
Drugs	3	3	5	4	8	6	4	4
Abortion	2	2	2	4	3	2	2	3
Social Security <sup>b</sup>	X	X	X	X	6	6	13	10
Medicare <sup>b</sup>	X	X	14	3	4	5	4	4
Foreign policy <sup>a</sup>	3	4	4	3	4	5	5	5
Peace/world peace/ nuclear arms	3	1	2	3	2	3	3	1
Homelessness <sup>c</sup>	X	X	4	3	4	4	3	3
(Programs for) the poor	3	7	3	2	2	2	4	4

Note: The issues mentioned are spontaneous, unprompted replies by the respondents. The numbers indicate the percent of respondents who mentioned the item as one of the top two issues for the government to address. Some issues mentioned by a relatively small percentage of respondents have been omitted. Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,024 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 7-10, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Non-specific.<sup>b</sup>Previously coded under "programs for the elderly."<sup>c</sup>Previously coded under "programs for the poor."

Source: Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., *The Harris Poll*, Apr. 10, 1996, p. 3; June 16, 1997, p. 6; Apr. 17, 1999, p. 8 (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc.); and Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Apr. 19, 2000), p. 11. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.3

**Respondents' attitudes toward the most important problem facing their local community**

United States, 1994 and 2001

Question: "What do you think is the most important problem facing your local community today?"

Problem	1994	2001
Education	11%	14%
Crime/gangs/justice system/violence	29	12
Drugs/alcohol	9	11
Unemployment/lack of jobs	12	9
Development/growth/overcrowding/traffic	4	7
Roads/sewers/infrastructure/transportation	5	6
Taxes	8	6
Dissatisfaction with government/politics	2	4
Power crisis/costs of gas/power	NA	4
Problems with children/delinquency	4	4
Inflation/differences between wages and costs	1	2
Morality/ethics/family values	2	2
Environment/pollution	3	1
Health care (cost/accessibility)	2	1
Racism	1	1
Funding availability for local services	4	1
Poverty/homeless	2	1
Costs/fees for local services	(a)	(a)
Other	3	9
No problem	4	5
Don't know	11	10

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,513 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 14-19, 2001.

<sup>a</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, *NEWSRelease* (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), p. 26. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.4

**Teenagers' attitudes toward the most important problem facing people their age**United States, 1999 and 2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "What is the most important problem facing people your age--that is, the thing which concerns you the most?"

Problem	1999	2000
Drugs	23%	21%
Social pressures	18	14
Crime and violence in school	13	5
Doing well in school	6	10
Other crime and violence	5	2
Sexual issues	3	3
Getting into college	2	4
Jobs/economic opportunity	1	1
Getting along with parents/ other problems at home	1	2
Lack of money	1	1
General lack of quality education	1	1
Declining moral standards/ immorality	1	1
Other	11	7
Don't know/refused	16	20

Note: These data are from telephone interviews of nationwide samples of teenagers, ages 12 to 17. The surveys were conducted for the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University. Randomly generated telephone numbers were pre-screened to determine if a teen in the appropriate age range resided there. Subsequent calls were made to conduct the actual interviews. For the 1999 survey, 2,000 teens were interviewed during May and June. For the 2000 survey, 1,000 teens were interviewed during October and November.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of multiple responses.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, **Back to School 1999 - The CASA National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse V: Teens and Their Parents** [Online], p. 30. Available: [http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr\\_doc/17635.pdf](http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/17635.pdf) [Dec. 9, 1999]; and National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, **The CASA National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VI: Teens** [Online], pp. 25, 26. Available: [http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr\\_doc/52809.pdf](http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/52809.pdf) [Mar. 30, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.5

**Respondents' perceptions of factors determining whether a teenager tries illegal drugs**

United States, 2001

Question: "How big a factor do you think the following things are in determining whether a teenager tries illegal drugs or not? Would you say... is a major factor whether a teenager tries illegal drugs, a minor factor, or not a factor at all?"

	Major factor	Minor factor	Not a factor	Don't know/refused
Peer pressure	82%	14%	2%	2%
Lack of parental supervision	79	15	4	2
How easy or difficult it is for the teen to get access to drugs	74	17	5	4
The portrayal of drug use in movies, music, and TV	55	32	10	3
Whether the teen's parents drink or smoke	52	32	13	3
Living in poverty	45	33	18	4
A lack of information about the dangers of drugs	44	35	19	2
Whether the teenager is raised in the city, suburbs, or country	25	30	42	3

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), p. 32. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.6

**Attitudes toward the biggest problems facing public schools**By school status, United States, 1996-2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "What do you think are the biggest problems with which the public schools of your community must deal?"

	National					Respondents with no children in school					Public school parents				
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Use/abuse of drugs	16%	14%	10%	8%	9%	17%	14%	10%	9%	10%	14%	14%	12%	6%	9%
Lack of discipline/more control <sup>b</sup>	15	15	14	18	15	16	15	15	18	17	12	12	9	15	9
Lack of proper financial support/funding/money <sup>c</sup>	13	15	12	9	18	14	15	13	9	17	13	14	11	9	19
Difficulty in getting good teachers/quality teachers	3	3	5	4	4	3	3	6	4	4	3	4	4	5	4
Low pay for teachers	NA	NA	2	2	4	NA	NA	2	2	4	NA	NA	1	1	3
Concern about standards/quality of education	NA	8	6	2	5	NA	7	6	3	6	NA	8	5	1	5
Overcrowded/large schools	8	8	8	8	12	6	6	5	6	10	11	10	11	12	14
Parents' lack of support/interest	NA	NA	2	4	4	NA	NA	2	4	5	NA	NA	1	5	3
Pupils' lack of interest/truancy, poor attitudes	5	6	5	2	NA	5	6	4	2	NA	6	6	5	2	NA
Integration/segregation/racial discrimination	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	NA	NA	NA	NA
Fighting/violence/gangs	14	12	15	11	11	14	12	14	10	11	15	12	20	12	11
Crime/vandalism	3	NA	2	5	5	3	NA	1	5	5	1	NA	2	4	4
Lack of respect	2	NA	2	2	2	2	NA	2	2	3	1	NA	2	1	1
Peer pressure	NA	NA	1	2	NA	NA	NA	(d)	2	NA	NA	NA	1	2	NA
Moral standards/dress code/sex/pregnancy	NA	NA	2	2	NA	NA	NA	1	1	NA	NA	NA	3	2	NA
There are no problems/none <sup>e</sup>	3	2	3	NA	NA	2	2	2	NA	NA	7	3	5	NA	NA

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,093 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted June 5-29, 2000. Some problems mentioned by a small percentage of respondents have been omitted. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1988 through 1995 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Totals may add to more than 100% because of multiple responses.

<sup>b</sup>The response "more control" was added in 1997.

<sup>c</sup>The response "funding/money" was added in 1998.

<sup>d</sup>Less than 0.5%.

<sup>e</sup>No problems" in 1996 and 1997; changed to "none" in 1998.

Source: Stanley M. Elam, Lowell C. Rose, and Alec M. Gallup, "The 28th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1996), p. 49; Lowell C. Rose, Alec M. Gallup, and Stanley M. Elam, "The 29th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," Phi Delta Kappa [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kpoll97c.htm> [Dec. 31, 1997]; Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 30th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," Phi Delta Kappa [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kp9809-3.htm> [Jan. 5, 1999]; and Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 31st Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1999), p. 47; "The 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2000), p. 46. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.7

**Attitudes toward causes of increased violence in public schools**

United States, 1994 and 1999

Question: "As you probably know, there has been an increase in violence in the nation's public schools over the last decade. How important do you consider each of the following as a cause for this increased violence--very important, quite important, not very important, or not at all important?"

	Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	No opinion
A breakdown in the American family (such as an increase in one-parent and dysfunctional families)					
1994	70%	20%	7%	2%	1%
1999	76	16	5	2	1
Increased use of drugs and alcohol among school-age youth					
1994	78	17	3	2	(a)
1999	74	16	8	1	1
Easy availability of weapons (guns, knives)					
1994	72	15	6	6	1
1999	72	11	12	5	(a)
Growth of youth gangs					
1994	72	19	4	3	2
1999	71	19	7	1	2
Schools do not have the authority to discipline that they once had					
1994	65	22	9	3	1
1999	69	18	10	2	1
Inability of school staff to resolve conflicts between students					
1994	59	26	11	3	1
1999	64	25	8	1	2
Increased portrayal of violence in the media (especially in movies and on TV)					
1994	60	20	14	5	1
1999	62	19	13	5	1
Trying to deal with troubled or emotionally disturbed students in the regular classroom instead of in special classes or schools					
1994	51	27	16	4	2
1999	61	23	12	2	2
Shortages in school personnel					
1994	52	26	15	5	2
1999	55	22	17	4	2
Cutbacks in many school support programs					
1994	45	27	18	6	4
1999	54	20	18	6	2
A school curriculum that is out of touch with the needs of today's students					
1994	48	28	17	4	3
1999	50	22	19	6	3
Increased cultural, racial, and ethnic diversity among the public school student population					
1994	43	26	22	7	2
1999	41	17	28	11	3
Increased poverty among parents					
1994	44	29	20	6	1
1999	39	26	27	6	2

Note: The 1999 data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,025 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 7-9, 1999. The 1994 data are from the annual Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Survey. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 404 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, May 1999), pp. 13, 14. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.8

**Teenagers reporting that their school is drug free**

By school type, United States, 1999 and 2000

Question: "Is your school a drug-free school or is it not drug free, meaning some students keep drugs, use drugs or sell drugs on school grounds?"

(Percent reporting that their school is drug free)

	1999	2000
Total	44%	45%
Public schools	40	42
Catholic and other religious schools	75	65

Note: See Note, table 2.4.

Source: National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, *Back to School 1999 - The CASA National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse V: Teens and Their Parents* [Online], p. 35. Available: [http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr\\_doc/17635.pdf](http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/17635.pdf) [Dec. 9, 1999]; and National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, *The CASA National Survey of American Attitudes on Substance Abuse VI: Teens* [Online], pp. 13, 28. Available: [http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr\\_doc/52809.pdf](http://www.casacolumbia.org/usr_doc/52809.pdf) [Mar. 30, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.9

**Attitudes toward zero tolerance policies for carrying weapons in public schools**

By school status, United States, 1997 and 2000

Question: "Some public schools have a so-called zero tolerance weapons policy, which means that students found carrying weapons of any kind in school will be automatically suspended. Would you favor or oppose such a policy in the public schools in your community?"

	National		Respondents with no children in school		Public school parents	
	1997	2000	1997	2000	1997	2000
Favor	93%	87%	92%	87%	95%	86%
Oppose	5	12	6	12	4	12
Don't know	2	1	2	1	1	2

Note: See Note, table 2.6. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2000), pp. 46, 47. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.10

**Attitudes toward holding parents legally responsible for crimes their children commit with the parents' gun**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Would you generally favor or oppose a law that would hold parents legally responsible if their children commit crimes with the parents' guns?"

	Favor	Oppose	Don't know/ refused
National	69%	24%	7%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	68	26	6
Female	69	23	8
<u>Race</u>			
White	70	23	7
Black	61	33	6
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	63	33	4
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	64	30	6
30 to 49 years	70	24	6
50 to 64 years	72	22	6
65 years and older	71	21	8
65 years and older	70	20	10
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	73	23	4
College graduate	76	17	7
Some college	68	23	9
High school graduate or less	66	28	6
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	71	25	4
\$50,000 and over <sup>b</sup>	74	22	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	70	21	9
\$20,000 to \$29,999	63	29	8
Under \$20,000	69	28	3
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	67	28	5
Suburban area	70	24	6
Rural area	69	21	10
<u>Region</u>			
East	72	21	7
Midwest	70	19	11
South	69	26	5
West	64	31	5
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	74	20	6
Democrat	67	27	6
Independent	66	26	8

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,007 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 7-9, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.<sup>b</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.11

**Attitudes toward parental responsibility for child's law breaking**

United States, 1999

Question	Percent
"Next we'd like to know your reaction to this statement: Parents are to blame when their child breaks the law. Do you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree nor disagree, agree, or strongly agree?"	
Strongly agree	8%
Agree	28
Neither agree nor disagree	21
Disagree	30
Strongly disagree	12
No opinion	1
"How do you feel about this statement: Parents should be punished when their child breaks the law. Do you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree nor disagree, agree, or strongly agree?"	
Strongly agree	3%
Agree	15
Neither agree nor disagree	16
Disagree	43
Strongly disagree	21
No opinion	2

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Nov. 18-21, 1999. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 411 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1999), p. 26. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.



Table 2.12

**Reported confidence in selected institutions**

United States, 1976-2001

Question: "As far as people in charge of running . . . are concerned, would you say you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?"

(Percent reporting "a great deal of confidence")

	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
The military	23%	27%	29%	29%	28%	28%	31%	35%	45%	32%	36%	35%	33%	32%	43%	47%	50%	57%	39%	43%	47%	37%	44%	54%	48%	44%
Medicine	42	43	42	30	34	37	32	35	43	39	33	36	40	30	35	NA	29	22	23	26	29	29	38	39	44	32
The White House	11	31	14	15	18	28	20	23	42	30	19	23	17	20	21	21	16	23	18	13	15	15	20	22	21	21
Major educational institutions such as colleges and universities	31	37	41	33	36	34	30	36	40	35	34	36	34	32	35	21	25	23	25	27	30	27	37	37	36	35
The U.S. Supreme Court	22	29	29	28	27	29	25	33	35	28	32	30	32	28	32	23	30	26	31	32	31	28	37	42	34	35
Congress	9	17	10	18	18	16	13	20	28	16	21	20	15	16	12	9	10	12	8	10	10	11	12	12	15	18
Television news	28	28	35	37	29	24	24	24	28	23	27	29	28	25	27	20	22	23	20	16	21	18	26	23	20	24
Organized religion	24	29	24	20	22	22	20	22	24	21	22	16	17	16	20	NA	NA	NA	NA	24	NA	20	25	27	26	25
Major companies	16	20	22	18	16	16	18	18	19	17	16	21	19	16	14	15	11	16	19	21	18	21	18	21	23	28
The press	20	18	23	28	19	16	14	19	18	16	19	19	18	18	18	14	13	15	13	11	14	11	14	15	13	13
Law firms	12	14	18	16	13	NA	NA	12	17	12	14	15	13	NA	NA	NA	11	11	8	9	11	7	11	10	12	10
Organized labor	10	14	15	10	14	12	8	10	12	13	11	11	13	10	14	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	NA	9	13	15	15	15
Executive branch of the Federal Government	11	23	14	17	17	24	NA	NA	NA	19	18	19	16	17	14	NA	13	15	12	9	12	12	17	17	18	20
Wall Street	NA	NA	NA	NA	12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	8	9	9	12	13	15	13	17	17	18	30	30	23

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Jan. 11-15, 2001. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Feb. 7, 2001), pp. 4-6. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.13

**Reported confidence in selected institutions**

United States, selected years 1975-2001

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little?"

(Percent saying "a great deal" or "quite a lot")

	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Banks and banking	NA	NA	60%	46%	51%	51%	49%	51%	49%	42%	36%	30%	37%	35%	43%	44%	41%	40%	43%	46%	44%
Big business	34%	33%	32	20	28	31	28	NA	25	NA	25	22	22	26	21	24	28	30	30	29	28
Church or organized religion	68	64	65	64	62	66	57	61	59	52	56	56	53	54	57	57	56	59	58	56	60
Congress	40	40	34	29	28	39	41	NA	35	32	24	18	18	18	21	20	22	28	26	24	26
Criminal justice system	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	17	15	20	19	24	23	24	NA
Medical system	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	34	36	41	42	38	40	40	40
Military	58	57	54	50	53	61	63	61	68	63	68	69	68	64	64	66	60	64	68	64	66
Newspapers	NA	NA	51	35	38	35	37	31	36	NA	39	32	31	29	30	32	35	33	33	37	36
Organized labor	38	39	36	28	26	28	29	26	26	NA	27	22	26	26	26	25	23	26	28	25	26
Police	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	52	54	58	60	59	58	57	57
Presidency	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	50	43	38	45	39	49	53	49	42
Public schools	NA	54	53	42	39	48	49	50	49	43	45	35	39	34	40	38	40	37	36	37	38
Television news	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	46	35	33	36	34	34	34	36
U.S. Supreme Court	49	46	45	46	42	56	54	52	56	46	47	39	44	42	44	45	50	50	49	47	50

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted June 8-10, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010625.asp> [June 25, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.14

**Reported confidence in the criminal justice system**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little: the criminal justice system?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None <sup>a</sup>
National	24%	42%	30%	3%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	28	38	32	2
Female	21	45	28	4
<u>Race</u>				
White	25	42	29	2
Black	18	43	28	9
Nonwhite <sup>b</sup>	18	43	30	7
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	28	39	28	4
30 to 49 years	22	43	31	4
50 to 64 years	20	45	33	2
50 years and older	24	43	29	2
65 years and older	28	40	25	2
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	25	44	29	1
College graduate	27	48	22	2
Some college	20	46	30	3
High school graduate or less	26	37	31	4
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	24	48	25	2
\$50,000 and over <sup>c</sup>	22	47	29	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	28	38	31	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	25	51	19	4
Under \$20,000	25	33	35	5
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	23	40	31	4
Suburban area	27	40	30	2
Rural area	20	46	29	3
<u>Region</u>				
East	25	43	27	4
Midwest	21	41	35	2
South	28	40	27	3
West	20	45	30	4
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	28	42	27	1
Democrat	25	43	28	4
Independent	20	41	34	4

Note: See Note, table 2.13. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

<sup>b</sup>Includes black respondents.

<sup>c</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.15

**Attitudes toward the effectiveness of the criminal justice system**United States, 2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "From what you have read or heard, or any personal experiences, how effective do you think the overall American criminal justice system is in each of the following areas: . . .?"

	Very effective	Some- what effective	Not very effective	Not effective at all	Don't know
Investigating and arresting persons suspected of committing crimes	18%	61%	14%	4%	3%
Prosecuting accused persons	15	58	19	5	4
Reaching just outcomes at criminal trials	13	55	22	5	5

Note: These data are from a survey commissioned by SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics as part of a project sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics. The data were collected by Opinion Research Corporation International. The telephone survey was conducted in February and March 2000 using a national probability sample of 1,030 adults, 18 years of age and older, living in households in the continental United States. The data are weighted according to U.S. Census Bureau estimates for age, race, sex, and geographic distributions of the national population.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, *Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information*, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 25. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.16

**Reported confidence in the police**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little: the police?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None <sup>a</sup>
National	57%	31%	11%	1%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	56	30	11	2
Female	58	31	11	(b)
<u>Race</u>				
White	59	29	10	1
Black	38	43	19	0
Nonwhite <sup>c</sup>	44	39	16	1
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	45	27	25	1
30 to 49 years	59	32	8	1
50 to 64 years	60	31	7	2
50 years and older	60	31	8	1
65 years and older	60	31	9	0
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	57	34	7	2
College graduate	61	30	8	1
Some college	56	31	13	(b)
High school graduate or less	57	29	12	1
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	66	28	4	(b)
\$50,000 and over <sup>d</sup>	62	30	7	(b)
\$30,000 to \$49,999	58	32	8	2
\$20,000 to \$29,999	57	29	13	1
Under \$20,000	48	32	19	1
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	51	34	13	2
Suburban area	58	31	9	1
Rural area	62	25	13	(b)
<u>Region</u>				
East	53	34	10	2
Midwest	57	29	13	1
South	57	31	10	2
West	59	28	12	0
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	67	26	7	(b)
Democrat	57	31	11	1
Independent	47	35	15	2

Note: See Note, table 2.13. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

<sup>b</sup>Less than 0.5%.

<sup>c</sup>Includes black respondents.

<sup>d</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.17

**Reported confidence in the police to protect from violent crime**

United States, selected years 1981-2000

Question: "How much confidence do you have in the ability of the police to protect you from violent crime--A great deal, quite a lot, not very much, or none at all?"

	A great deal	Quite a lot	Not very much	None at all	No opinion
1981	15%	34%	42%	8%	1%
1985	15	37	39	6	3
1989	14	34	42	8	2
1990	17	35	46	(a)	2
1993	14	31	45	9	1
1995	20	30	39	9	2
1998	19	36	37	8	(a)
1999	29	41	25	4	1
2000	20	42	31	6	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Aug. 29-Sept. 5, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 397, p. 50; No. 420, p. 55 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Page 110 intentionally blank.

Table 2.18

**Reported confidence in the U.S. Supreme Court**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "I am going to read you a list of institutions in American society. Please tell me how much confidence you, yourself, have in each one--a great deal, quite a lot, some, or very little: the U.S. Supreme Court?"

	Great deal/quite a lot	Some	Very little	None <sup>a</sup>
National	50%	31%	13%	3%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	56	27	11	4
Female	45	35	15	1
<u>Race</u>				
White	51	32	11	3
Black	41	27	29	2
Nonwhite <sup>b</sup>	45	28	23	2
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	55	27	13	2
30 to 49 years	51	34	11	3
50 to 64 years	52	31	13	3
50 years and older	46	32	15	3
65 years and older	40	31	18	2
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	55	34	7	1
College graduate	58	31	8	2
Some college	52	30	14	1
High school graduate or less	43	32	16	5
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	58	26	9	3
\$50,000 and over <sup>c</sup>	57	28	10	3
\$30,000 to \$49,999	54	33	10	1
\$20,000 to \$29,999	45	41	13	1
Under \$20,000	42	29	19	5
<u>Community</u>				
Urban area	51	28	16	3
Suburban area	52	32	12	2
Rural area	46	35	11	3
<u>Region</u>				
East	47	32	16	1
Midwest	49	33	13	2
South	48	33	12	5
West	57	27	12	1
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	61	28	8	1
Democrat	46	34	14	3
Independent	42	33	17	4

Note: See Note, table 2.13. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

<sup>b</sup>Includes black respondents.

<sup>c</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.19

**Reported confidence in the U.S. Supreme Court**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1983-2000

Question: "I'm going to name some institutions in this country. As far as the people running these institutions (U.S. Supreme Court) are concerned, would you say you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?"

	1983			1984			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any
National	27%	55%	14%	33%	51%	12%	30%	52%	14%	36%	50%	10%	35%	50%	11%	34%	50%	11%
<u>Sex</u>																		
Male	31	50	16	40	44	15	36	47	15	41	46	11	39	47	10	38	47	12
Female	24	58	12	29	56	11	25	56	14	33	52	10	31	53	11	32	52	10
<u>Race</u>																		
White	27	55	14	35	50	13	31	53	13	38	47	11	36	49	11	36	49	11
Black/other	26	53	15	25	54	11	24	49	19	26	61	7	26	56	10	26	55	12
<u>Age</u>																		
18 to 20 years	38	49	11	29	52	19	47	42	10	62	24	10	57	37	7	44	47	3
21 to 29 years	33	55	10	45	42	11	38	48	10	41	51	6	43	45	8	40	50	8
30 to 49 years	24	60	15	30	56	12	30	55	14	36	52	9	34	55	8	34	54	9
50 years and older	26	51	16	30	51	13	24	52	17	32	48	13	30	50	14	31	46	15
<u>Education</u> <sup>a</sup>																		
College	34	53	12	40	50	8	37	52	9	44	49	6	40	51	8	42	50	7
High school graduate	24	58	15	30	52	15	26	56	15	32	51	12	32	51	13	29	52	14
Less than high school graduate	19	47	19	25	46	17	21	39	27	24	47	18	27	46	12	26	41	13
<u>Income</u>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<u>Occupation</u>																		
Professional/business	34	52	11	40	49	9	36	52	11	47	45	7	38	52	9	43	51	5
Clerical/support	26	57	14	24	62	12	25	57	14	33	58	7	32	54	10	33	50	12
Manual/service	22	57	17	33	48	14	27	51	17	29	52	13	32	50	12	27	52	14
Farming/agriculture	41	36	10	45	40	15	36	39	15	35	40	22	33	33	33	31	19	31
<u>Region</u>																		
Northeast	30	54	12	32	51	13	32	52	13	43	48	7	35	53	9	37	45	9
Midwest	30	54	12	30	55	12	30	54	13	32	52	12	33	51	11	33	55	9
South	26	53	17	32	49	14	28	50	16	33	50	12	37	44	12	32	48	16
West	22	60	15	41	48	9	30	54	14	41	48	8	32	58	8	38	52	6
<u>Religion</u>																		
Protestant	27	54	16	33	52	11	28	52	15	35	50	11	35	48	12	30	54	12
Catholic	26	58	12	32	52	13	32	54	11	39	48	9	34	55	9	47	40	6
Jewish	43	45	10	45	45	10	37	55	8	55	35	5	39	61	0	35	41	18
None	30	51	14	36	43	17	33	47	19	33	53	10	38	52	7	28	54	12
<u>Politics</u>																		
Republican	30	53	16	42	47	10	33	51	14	42	48	6	42	49	7	40	52	6
Democrat	27	54	15	34	51	12	29	53	14	34	50	12	33	52	12	32	51	13
Independent	26	57	12	27	54	14	28	52	15	35	50	12	30	50	12	33	46	13

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 2,817 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted February to April, 2000. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any	A great deal	Only some	Hardly any
35%	48%	13%	38%	48%	13%	31%	52%	13%	30%	50%	16%	28%	50%	17%	31%	50%	14%	32%	49%	13%
36	48	13	44	42	14	34	51	12	34	48	16	33	45	18	34	47	15	36	46	14
34	48	12	33	52	12	28	52	14	27	52	17	24	54	16	28	52	13	29	52	12
37	47	12	38	47	12	32	51	12	30	50	17	30	49	16	33	50	13	32	50	12
27	53	14	34	48	14	20	55	20	29	50	15	23	53	18	24	50	18	30	46	14
39	48	4	32	42	21	38	52	7	32	47	21	38	40	15	52	33	7	46	38	9
38	47	10	50	41	7	32	55	13	37	51	11	30	46	19	35	47	15	43	42	10
36	47	14	36	51	12	32	52	14	30	52	16	26	55	15	29	54	14	31	52	12
32	50	12	33	48	15	28	50	14	27	48	19	29	46	17	30	48	14	27	50	15
44	47	9	45	45	9	36	51	11	36	49	13	33	52	13	36	51	11	38	49	9
29	48	17	32	49	16	24	54	17	26	52	20	24	51	20	26	55	15	25	53	16
21	51	13	23	57	13	27	46	13	19	42	20	22	41	22	26	38	21	23	44	19
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	52	10	38	48	14	34	51	12	34	54	11	37	53	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	28	58	12	31	54	13	27	54	16	31	50	15	30	54	13
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	33	46	17	30	53	15	31	49	16	28	52	14	28	51	13
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	26	51	16	26	46	22	24	49	21	32	45	15	30	44	17
42	48	10	42	47	10	36	52	9	37	48	14	34	50	12	36	53	9	38	50	9
35	48	10	45	45	10	25	57	14	28	54	16	29	52	17	25	56	15	28	53	12
28	49	17	32	50	15	29	49	17	26	52	17	24	49	20	30	45	18	27	47	18
35	53	12	30	60	5	26	58	5	35	38	25	13	42	29	32	42	19	23	60	11
39	43	13	44	39	14	32	50	12	35	47	14	31	49	13	31	54	11	34	47	12
37	48	10	34	51	13	33	52	11	29	50	18	29	51	17	30	49	15	30	51	14
29	53	13	37	48	13	25	55	16	27	51	18	26	49	18	30	47	17	31	50	13
39	44	15	38	51	9	34	48	13	32	51	15	29	51	17	33	53	11	33	50	12
33	50	13	35	48	15	29	52	14	28	51	17	25	51	18	29	51	15	30	50	14
40	42	12	45	44	9	36	50	12	32	51	14	33	48	15	35	48	12	33	49	11
67	33	0	48	43	10	30	50	15	42	46	12	48	44	4	41	47	9	43	45	12
34	44	16	24	64	11	29	56	13	33	47	18	30	45	19	29	51	14	33	49	14
41	48	9	46	43	11	33	54	11	32	49	16	32	51	15	33	50	15	31	51	13
31	48	16	34	50	13	27	52	16	32	48	16	30	51	13	31	50	13	33	50	10
33	48	13	34	50	14	32	50	13	27	53	17	24	49	21	30	50	15	32	49	14

Table 2.20

**Respondents' ratings of several aspects of the prison system in the United States**

United States, 2000

Question: "Next, we'd like to ask you about several aspects of the prison system in the United States. For each one, please say whether you think prisons are doing an excellent, good, only fair or poor job. How about . . .?"

	Excellent	Good	Only fair	Poor	No opinion
Maintaining high security to keep prisoners from escaping	18%	49%	23%	8%	2%
Rehabilitating inmates so they are less likely to commit crimes in the future	2	12	34	48	4
Maintaining a safe environment for inmates in prison	5	25	37	26	7

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 56. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.21

**Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of various occupations**

By type of occupation, United States, 2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: . . .?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low	No opinion
Nurses	20%	59%	18%	2%	(a)	1%
Clergy	20	39	30	6	1%	4
Druggists, pharmacists	14	53	30	3	(a)	(a)
Veterinarians	14	52	26	2	1	5
Medical doctors	14	49	29	6	2	(a)
Grade and high school teachers	14	48	28	7	2	1
Police	12	43	34	8	3	(a)
College teachers	11	48	30	5	(a)	6
Dentists	9	49	35	5	1	1
Engineers	9	47	36	3	(a)	5
Judges	8	39	38	11	2	2
Funeral directors	7	28	48	10	2	5
Accountants	5	33	51	5	1	5
Bankers	5	32	51	10	1	1
State governors	4	27	50	13	3	3
TV reporters, commentators	4	18	47	22	8	1
Local officeholders	3	23	55	13	3	3
Senators	3	21	54	18	2	2
Building contractors	3	20	55	16	3	3
Auto mechanics	3	19	52	20	5	1
Labor union leaders	3	14	43	24	9	7
Lawyers	3	14	42	29	11	1
Business executives	2	20	56	14	3	5
Congress members	2	19	56	18	3	2
Journalists	2	19	51	21	5	2
State officeholders	2	18	58	17	2	3
Stockbrokers	2	17	54	16	3	8
Real estate agents	2	15	58	19	4	2
Newspaper reporters	2	14	53	24	6	1
Insurance salespeople	2	9	52	29	7	1
Advertising practitioners	1	9	52	27	6	5
Car salespeople	1	6	35	40	17	1

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,028 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Nov. 13-15, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001127.asp> [Apr. 18, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.22

**Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers**

United States, selected years 1976-2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Lawyers?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low	No opinion
1976	6%	19%	48%	18%	8%	1%
1977	5	21	44	18	8	4
1981	4	21	41	19	8	7
1983	5	19	43	20	9	6
1985	6	21	40	21	9	3
1988	3	15	45	22	10	4
1990	4	18	43	23	9	4
1991	4	18	43	24	10	5
1992	3	15	43	25	11	3
1993	3	13	41	26	13	2
1994	3	14	36	27	15	1
1995	4	12	36	28	17	2
1996	3	14	39	29	14	3
1997	3	12	41	30	10	3
1999	1	12	45	28	13	1
2000	3	14	42	29	11	1

Note: See Note, table 2.21. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 279 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1988), p. 18; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 293 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, February 1990), p. 23; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, May 22, 1991), p. 3; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 322 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, July 1992), p. 2; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 334 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, July 1993), p. 38; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, Nov. 10, 1995), p. 2; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, Jan. 2, 1997), p. 2; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 387 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1997), p. 23; The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr991116.asp> [Mar. 22, 2000]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001127.asp> [Apr. 18, 2001]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.



Table 2.23

**Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of lawyers**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Lawyers?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
National	3%	14%	42%	29%	11%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	3	13	36	32	16
Female	3	14	47	26	8
<b>Race</b>					
White	2	12	42	30	13
Black	7	17	47	24	3
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	6	21	42	24	5
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 29 years	3	20	38	30	8
30 to 49 years	3	10	44	28	14
50 to 64 years	4	17	39	29	11
50 years and older	3	14	43	28	10
65 years and older	1	12	48	26	9
<b>Education</b>					
College post graduate	2	14	46	24	13
College graduate	2	11	39	37	11
Some college	1	9	43	34	13
High school graduate or less	5	18	41	24	10
<b>Community</b>					
Urban area	5	16	40	28	9
Suburban area	2	13	42	30	12
Rural area	1	13	44	28	13
<b>Region</b>					
East	6	15	42	25	10
Midwest	2	12	46	31	8
South	2	15	41	28	14
West	2	12	39	32	13
<b>Politics</b>					
Republican	3	12	41	31	12
Democrat	3	17	44	26	9
Independent	3	12	39	30	14

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.24

**Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of police**

United States, selected years 1977-2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Policemen?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
1977	8%	29%	50%	9%	3%
1981	8	36	41	9	4
1983	7	34	45	7	4
1985	10	37	41	7	3
1988	10	37	39	8	3
1990	9	40	41	7	2
1991	7	36	42	10	3
1992	8	34	42	10	4
1993	10	40	39	7	3
1994	9	37	41	9	3
1995	8	33	44	11	3
1996	10	39	38	8	3
1997	10	39	40	8	2
1999	9	43	38	8	2
2000	12	43	34	8	3

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Report*, Report No. 279 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1988), p. 10; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 293 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, February 1990), p. 23; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, May 22, 1991), p. 3; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 322 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, July 1992), p. 2; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 334 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, July 1993), p. 38; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, Nov. 10, 1995), p. 2; *The Gallup Poll* (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, Jan. 2, 1997), p. 2; *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 387 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, December 1997), p. 23; The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr991116.asp> [Mar. 22, 2000]; <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001127.asp> [Apr. 18, 2001]; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.25

**Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of police**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Policemen?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
National	12%	43%	34%	8%	3%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	14	43	31	8	4
Female	11	43	36	7	2
<b>Race</b>					
White	12	47	33	6	2
Black	12	20	40	21	6
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	12	23	38	19	7
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 29 years	13	38	34	11	4
30 to 49 years	13	45	33	6	3
50 to 64 years	12	38	36	9	4
50 years and older	12	43	34	8	2
65 years and older	11	49	31	7	1
<b>Education</b>					
College post graduate	10	50	31	8	1
College graduate	12	54	28	4	2
Some college	12	41	33	10	4
High school graduate or less	14	38	36	8	3
<b>Community</b>					
Urban area	11	43	34	8	4
Suburban area	12	47	31	7	3
Rural area	14	35	38	10	3
<b>Region</b>					
East	15	45	31	7	1
Midwest	12	45	32	9	2
South	11	39	39	8	3
West	12	44	30	9	5
<b>Politics</b>					
Republican	15	49	30	5	1
Democrat	12	36	39	9	3
Independent	10	44	32	8	5

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.26

**Respondents' ratings of the honesty and ethical standards of judges**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Please tell me how you would rate the honesty and ethical standards of people in these different fields--very high, high, average, low, or very low: Judges?"

	Very high	High	Average	Low	Very low
National	8%	39%	38%	11%	2%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	10	39	37	12	2
Female	6	40	40	10	1
<b>Race</b>					
White	7	40	40	10	1
Black	9	31	40	16	3
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	11	34	34	15	3
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 29 years	13	40	35	11	1
30 to 49 years	7	43	37	10	2
50 to 64 years	7	32	43	12	2
50 years and older	5	35	43	11	1
65 years and older	3	38	42	10	1
<b>Education</b>					
College post graduate	9	46	35	9	1
College graduate	7	51	30	9	2
Some college	8	41	39	10	1
High school graduate or less	8	32	42	12	2
<b>Community</b>					
Urban area	8	40	38	10	2
Suburban area	7	42	36	11	2
Rural area	10	32	45	11	0
<b>Region</b>					
East	9	44	34	10	1
Midwest	6	41	40	9	2
South	7	36	41	13	1
West	10	37	37	9	4
<b>Politics</b>					
Republican	7	42	37	11	2
Democrat	9	40	39	9	1
Independent	8	36	39	12	2

Note: See Note, table 2.21. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.27

**Respondents reporting amount of respect for police in their area**

United States, selected years 1965-2000

Question: "How much respect do you have for the police in your area--a great deal, some, or hardly any?"

	A great deal	Some	Hardly any	No opinion
1965	70%	22%	4%	4%
1967	77	17	4	2
1991	60	32	7	1
1999	64	29	7	(a)
2000	60	30	9	1

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 55. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.28

**Respondents' ratings of performance of police in own community**United States, 2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "How would you rate the police in your community on the following--excellent, pretty good, only fair or poor?"

	Excellent	Pretty good	Only fair	Poor	Don't know/ refused
Responding quickly to calls for help and assistance	31%	38%	17%	8%	6%
Not using excessive force	33	39	14	7	8
Being helpful and friendly	37	37	16	8	2
Treating people fairly	24	43	19	10	4
Preventing crime	21	48	20	9	1
Solving crime	16	47	23	7	6

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,013 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 17-21, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Mar. 1, 2000), p. 3. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Page 118 intentionally blank.

Table 2.29

**Attitudes toward fair treatment of persons of different races by police in own community**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Do you think the police in your community treat all races fairly or do they tend to treat one or more of these groups unfairly?"

	Treat all races fairly	Treat one or more groups unfairly	Don't know
National	64%	26%	10%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	65	27	8
Female	64	24	11
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	69	20	10
Black	36	58	6
Hispanic	63	27	10
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 24 years	55	41	4
25 to 29 years	62	28	10
30 to 39 years	67	24	9
40 to 49 years	68	23	9
50 to 64 years	64	23	12
65 years and older	69	17	14
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	59	31	9
College graduate	65	23	11
Some college	68	24	7
High school graduate or less	62	27	10
<u>Income</u>			
Over \$75,000	64	24	12
\$50,001 to \$75,000	70	23	7
\$35,001 to \$50,000	69	25	6
\$25,001 to \$35,000	60	30	10
\$15,001 to \$25,000	65	30	5
\$15,000 or less	62	31	7
<u>Region</u>			
East	65	24	10
Midwest	68	24	8
South	61	27	11
West	64	26	10
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	75	17	8
Democrat	58	32	10
Independent	63	26	10

Note: See Note, table 2.28. The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.30

**Respondents reporting fear that the police will stop and arrest them when innocent**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Are you sometimes afraid that the police will stop and arrest you when you are completely innocent, or not?"

	Yes, some-times afraid	No, not afraid
National	17%	82%
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	20	80
Female	14	84
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>		
White	14	86
Black	36	62
Hispanic	22	78
<u>Age</u>		
18 to 24 years	28	71
25 to 29 years	14	82
30 to 39 years	21	79
40 to 49 years	11	89
50 to 64 years	17	81
65 years and older	10	90
<u>Education</u>		
College post graduate	14	85
College graduate	16	83
Some college	15	85
High school graduate or less	19	80
<u>Income</u>		
Over \$75,000	12	88
\$50,001 to \$75,000	16	84
\$35,001 to \$50,000	14	84
\$25,001 to \$35,000	20	80
\$15,001 to \$25,000	15	85
\$15,000 or less	29	67
<u>Region</u>		
East	13	84
Midwest	17	83
South	22	78
West	13	85
<u>Politics</u>		
Republican	9	91
Democrat	20	79
Independent	19	81

Note: See Note, table 2.28. The "don't know" and "refused" categories have been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.31

**Attitudes toward a police officer striking an adult male citizen**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Are there any situations you can imagine in which you would approve of a police-man striking an adult male citizen?"

	1973		1975		1976		1978		1980		1983		1984		1986		1987	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
National	73%	25%	73%	23%	76%	20%	76%	20%	73%	24%	78%	20%	69%	28%	72%	25%	73%	23%
<b>Sex</b>																		
Male	75	22	77	20	81	17	82	16	80	18	83	15	75	23	80	17	80	17
Female	71	28	70	26	72	22	72	23	68	29	73	23	65	32	66	31	67	27
<b>Race</b>																		
White	77	21	77	20	79	18	80	17	76	21	80	17	73	25	76	22	76	20
Black/other	42	54	46	47	48	44	48	45	45	49	59	37	50	46	49	46	56	35
<b>Age</b>																		
18 to 20 years	55	45	70	27	78	20	67	30	71	29	78	22	71	27	60	38	71	29
21 to 29 years	76	22	75	22	78	20	79	19	76	23	81	17	72	26	74	25	73	24
30 to 49 years	76	23	79	18	79	17	79	18	79	20	81	17	75	24	78	21	77	19
50 years and older	70	26	68	27	73	23	73	21	66	28	72	24	62	34	65	30	68	26
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																		
College	84	14	86	13	85	13	85	12	82	17	87	11	79	20	85	14	83	14
High school graduate	72	27	71	26	76	20	76	21	73	24	75	23	67	31	67	31	70	26
Less than high school graduate	56	38	58	35	62	33	59	33	52	41	56	36	46	46	51	38	48	39
<b>Income</b>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																		
Professional/business	83	16	84	14	84	14	86	11	83	15	85	13	76	22	83	15	86	12
Clerical/support	80	18	77	20	78	18	79	19	78	21	83	16	74	26	70	28	66	29
Manual/service	66	32	66	30	73	24	72	25	67	29	71	26	64	32	66	30	65	29
Farming/agriculture	69	22	63	27	70	28	79	8	70	24	92	3	61	29	63	34	78	15
<b>Region</b>																		
Northeast	68	31	74	24	75	22	74	25	74	24	77	20	65	34	68	28	71	26
Midwest	72	25	77	21	78	18	80	18	70	26	76	22	70	26	72	26	72	24
South	73	25	71	24	74	20	74	21	71	26	77	20	67	30	70	26	71	23
West	79	19	70	26	78	20	80	16	79	18	84	14	76	23	78	21	79	17
<b>Religion</b>																		
Protestant	74	24	73	22	77	19	75	21	74	22	78	19	70	27	73	24	74	22
Catholic	70	27	71	27	74	23	76	21	70	28	75	22	66	32	68	30	68	27
Jewish	71	26	91	4	70	30	72	24	81	16	83	12	67	26	76	18	80	15
None	69	30	76	23	82	16	85	13	70	26	80	18	74	25	76	22	75	21
<b>Politics</b>																		
Republican	76	22	76	19	79	17	76	20	78	20	86	13	74	24	78	19	82	16
Democrat	67	31	67	29	72	24	73	23	67	29	72	26	62	35	68	30	66	29
Independent	79	19	78	19	79	17	80	18	75	22	79	17	73	25	73	24	74	21

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
73%	23%	70%	24%	70%	25%	66%	30%	73%	22%	71%	26%	67%	29%	66%	30%	64%	33%
77	20	77	18	77	19	71	27	81	16	80	18	75	21	74	23	74	24
69	25	66	28	64	30	62	33	68	27	64	32	60	35	59	36	56	40
77	19	74	21	73	22	70	26	77	19	76	22	71	25	71	26	70	27
51	41	51	40	52	41	44	51	51	40	48	46	47	45	47	47	39	56
74	26	69	31	59	36	53	42	69	28	56	38	50	46	52	43	62	38
70	26	73	21	74	24	68	30	80	19	70	27	68	28	66	30	63	36
79	18	74	20	74	23	72	27	75	22	76	22	70	26	68	28	67	30
68	26	65	28	63	28	58	34	68	24	66	30	63	31	63	31	61	33
78	19	78	17	78	19	73	24	79	18	79	19	74	23	71	27	72	26
73	23	66	30	64	30	64	32	70	26	66	32	62	33	68	28	59	37
50	36	53	34	48	33	36	54	55	33	52	40	52	39	47	44	48	46
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	83	16	81	18	76	22	73	25	76	22
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	23	80	18	71	27	72	24	68	29
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	77	20	69	28	68	28	66	31	66	32
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	65	29	60	35	57	37	55	39	50	46
79	19	80	14	80	18	75	23	79	17	80	18	75	21	71	26	73	25
77	19	70	26	73	24	66	30	74	22	67	30	60	36	67	28	60	37
69	26	64	30	64	29	60	35	72	24	68	29	66	30	62	33	58	38
62	25	75	12	50	38	55	35	47	47	70	20	58	37	68	29	69	29
68	29	62	30	68	24	63	34	71	25	65	32	57	38	57	37	57	38
70	24	79	19	69	26	66	30	67	27	71	26	69	27	68	29	65	32
75	19	71	20	67	27	65	31	77	18	71	26	66	29	67	28	64	32
77	20	66	29	76	20	70	26	76	20	78	20	76	21	68	29	69	27
74	21	73	22	70	25	67	28	74	21	70	27	69	26	66	30	65	31
66	29	66	28	67	27	62	34	67	27	71	25	62	35	62	34	59	36
91	4	75	19	71	29	68	32	79	21	76	22	61	37	69	31	67	33
78	20	68	25	74	19	65	34	78	21	77	22	70	26	70	24	71	27
75	21	76	18	76	19	72	25	78	17	77	20	78	18	73	23	74	24
69	26	69	26	64	30	58	37	65	29	66	30	60	36	60	36	56	40
75	20	66	26	70	25	68	28	76	20	71	26	66	30	64	30	64	32

Table 2.32

**Attitudes toward a police officer striking a citizen under certain circumstances**

United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Would you approve of a policeman striking a citizen who. . ."

	Was attacking the policeman with his fists?		Was attempting to escape from custody?		Had said vulgar and obscene things to the policeman?		Was being questioned in a murder case?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
1973	97%	3%	87%	12%	22%	76%	8%	90%
1975	98	2	86	11	19	77	8	90
1976	94	5	78	18	20	77	8	90
1978	93	6	75	22	18	80	8	89
1980	94	4	76	20	14	84	8	90
1983	92	7	75	21	15	83	9	89
1984	92	6	73	23	12	86	9	89
1986	94	5	72	24	14	85	9	90
1987	92	7	77	18	11	86	10	87
1988	92	6	76	19	12	86	8	89
1989	94	5	76	20	11	87	8	90
1990	92	6	74	21	12	84	11	86
1991	90	8	69	26	9	89	6	92
1993	92	6	73	23	7	91	7	90
1994	93	6	75	21	9	90	7	92
1996	91	7	68	27	7	92	5	94
1998	90	8	68	27	7	92	6	93
2000	90	8	67	28	6	92	6	93

Note: See Note, table 2.19. In 1973 and 1975 these data were based on a subsample of respondents who answered "yes" or "don't know" to the question presented in table 2.31. Since 1976, all survey respondents were asked the above questions. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.



Table 2.33

**Attitudes toward a police officer striking a citizen under certain circumstances**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Would you approve of a policeman striking a citizen who . . ."

	Was attacking the policeman with his fists?		Was attempting to escape from custody?		Had said vulgar and obscene things to the policeman?		Was being questioned in a murder case?	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
National	90%	8%	67%	28%	6%	92%	6%	93%
<b>Sex</b>								
Male	94	4	74	23	7	91	5	94
Female	86	12	61	33	5	93	6	92
<b>Race</b>								
White	92	7	72	24	7	92	5	93
Black/other	82	14	46	48	3	95	8	91
<b>Age</b>								
18 to 20 years	80	17	62	35	2	98	4	96
21 to 29 years	88	11	63	35	3	96	3	97
30 to 49 years	91	8	66	30	4	94	5	94
50 years and older	90	7	71	24	10	87	8	89
<b>Education</b>								
College	92	6	71	25	5	94	4	95
High school graduate	88	11	66	30	8	91	7	91
Less than high school graduate	86	10	55	37	8	87	8	88
<b>Income</b>								
\$50,000 and over	95	4	75	22	6	93	6	94
\$30,000 to \$49,999	92	8	71	25	6	93	4	95
\$20,000 to \$29,999	89	9	68	27	3	97	6	92
Under \$20,000	84	13	58	37	8	89	8	89
<b>Occupation</b>								
Professional/business	92	6	71	24	5	94	5	94
Clerical/support	90	8	71	26	6	94	6	93
Manual/service	87	10	61	33	7	90	7	91
Farming/agriculture	86	11	71	23	17	83	6	94
<b>Region</b>								
Northeast	84	13	58	35	6	91	10	88
Midwest	91	8	71	22	7	92	6	92
South	92	7	68	29	5	94	4	95
West	91	7	68	28	8	91	4	95
<b>Religion</b>								
Protestant	91	7	71	24	8	91	6	93
Catholic	87	10	62	33	5	93	8	90
Jewish	90	10	61	32	2	95	7	93
None	92	7	64	30	3	96	2	97
<b>Politics</b>								
Republican	94	6	79	18	9	90	6	93
Democrat	87	10	57	37	5	93	6	92
Independent	90	8	66	28	5	93	5	94

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.34

**Respondents' perceptions of police brutality in their area**

United States, selected years 1965-2000

Question: "In some places in the nation there have been charges of police brutality. Do you think there is any police brutality in your area, or not?"

	Yes	No	No opinion
1965	9%	79%	12%
1967	6	81	13
March 1991	35	60	5
July 1991	39	56	5
1999	38	57	5
2000	32	65	3

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 56. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.35

**Respondents' perceptions of police brutality in their area**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "In some places in the nation there have been charges of police brutality. Do you think there is any police brutality in your area, or not?"

	Yes	No	Don't know/ refused
National	32%	65%	3%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	36	62	2
Female	28	67	5
<b>Race</b>			
White	28	69	3
Black	53	41	6
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	50	45	5
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 29 years	35	61	4
30 to 49 years	37	60	3
50 to 64 years	32	63	5
50 years and older	25	70	5
65 years and older	16	80	4
<b>Education</b>			
College post graduate	33	64	3
College graduate	37	59	4
Some college	33	66	1
High school graduate or less	29	66	5
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	33	65	2
\$50,000 to \$74,999	31	67	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	34	62	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	30	68	2
Under \$20,000	33	61	6
<b>Community</b>			
Urban area	46	50	4
Suburban area	30	66	4
Rural area	15	83	2
<b>Region</b>			
East	34	63	3
Midwest	24	73	3
South	32	63	5
West	37	60	3
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	22	75	3
Democrat	39	59	2
Independent	33	62	5

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.36

**Attitudes toward level of crime in the United States**

United States, selected years 1989-2000

Question: "Is there more crime in the U.S. than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same <sup>a</sup>	No opinion
1989	84%	5%	5%	6%
1990	84	3	7	6
1992	89	3	4	4
1993	87	4	5	4
1996	71	15	8	6
1997	64	25	6	5
1998	52	35	8	5
2000	47	41	7	5

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc. *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000907.asp> [Jan. 30, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.37

**Attitudes toward level of crime in the United States**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Is there more crime in the U.S. than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same <sup>a</sup>	Don't know/ refused
National	47%	41%	7%	5%
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	40	48	6	6
Female	54	35	7	4
<b>Race</b>				
White	46	42	7	5
Black	52	43	3	2
Nonwhite <sup>b</sup>	52	41	4	3
<b>Age</b>				
18 to 29 years	56	34	6	4
30 to 49 years	42	45	9	4
50 to 64 years	47	45	2	6
50 years and older	48	42	4	6
65 years and older	49	38	7	6
<b>Education</b>				
College post graduate	34	55	7	4
College graduate	37	51	6	6
Some college	49	40	6	5
High school graduate or less	53	36	7	4
<b>Income</b>				
\$75,000 and over	32	56	6	6
\$50,000 to \$74,999	41	50	5	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	52	37	7	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	50	39	8	3
Under \$20,000	57	32	7	4
<b>Community</b>				
Urban area	46	45	4	5
Suburban area	45	44	7	4
Rural area	54	32	10	4
<b>Region</b>				
East	41	48	4	7
Midwest	47	41	7	5
South	55	33	7	5
West	43	47	7	3
<b>Politics</b>				
Republican	54	34	6	6
Democrat	42	48	6	4
Independent	47	42	7	4

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

<sup>b</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.38

**Attitudes toward level of crime in own area**United States, selected years 1972-2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Is there more crime in your area than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same <sup>b</sup>	No opinion
1972	51%	10%	27%	12%
1975	50	12	29	9
1977	43	17	32	8
1981	54	8	29	9
1983	37	17	36	10
January 1989	47	21	27	5
June 1989	53	18	22	7
1990	51	18	24	8
1992	54	19	23	4
1996	46	24	25	5
1997	46	32	20	2
1998	31	48	16	5
2000	34	46	15	5

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

<sup>b</sup>Response volunteered.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc. *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000907.asp> [Jan. 30, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.39

**Attitudes toward level of crime in own area**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Is there more crime in your area than there was a year ago, or less?"

	More	Less	Same <sup>a</sup>	Don't know/ refused
National	34%	46%	15%	5%
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	32	51	12	5
Female	36	42	17	5
<b>Race</b>				
White	34	46	15	5
Black	31	57	8	4
Nonwhite <sup>b</sup>	31	54	11	4
<b>Age</b>				
18 to 29 years	32	44	13	11
30 to 49 years	36	45	15	4
50 to 64 years	35	50	11	4
50 years and older	33	49	14	4
65 years and older	30	48	18	4
<b>Education</b>				
College post graduate	26	49	17	8
College graduate	34	50	14	2
Some college	36	44	13	7
High school graduate or less	34	47	15	4
<b>Income</b>				
\$75,000 and over	27	51	17	5
\$50,000 to \$74,999	29	54	11	6
\$30,000 to \$49,999	35	43	16	6
\$20,000 to \$29,999	37	44	15	4
Under \$20,000	40	42	12	6
<b>Community</b>				
Urban area	33	51	11	5
Suburban area	31	48	15	6
Rural area	41	37	19	3
<b>Region</b>				
East	29	49	16	6
Midwest	33	46	18	3
South	38	45	11	6
West	33	47	13	7
<b>Politics</b>				
Republican	40	42	13	5
Democrat	27	55	15	3
Independent	35	42	15	8

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

<sup>b</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.40

**Respondents reporting fear of walking alone and feeling unsafe at home at night**

United States, selected years 1965-2000

Question: "Is there any area near where you live--that is, within a mile--where you would be afraid to walk alone at night? How about when you're at home at night--do you feel safe and secure, or not?"

	Afraid to walk alone at night	Feel unsafe at home at night
1965	34%	NA
1967	31	NA
1972	42	17%
1975	45	20
1977	45	15
1981	45	16
1983	45	16
1989	43	10
1990	40	10
1992	44	11
1993	43	NA
1996	39	9
1997	38	9
2000	34	NA

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: George Gallup, Jr., *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 318, pp. 51, 52; No. 339, p. 20; No. 371, p. 37 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll); George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 420 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, September 2000), p. 48; and data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.41

**Respondents reporting whether they feel afraid to walk alone at night in their own neighborhood**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Is there any area right around here--that is, within a mile--where you would be afraid to walk alone at night?"

	1973		1974		1976		1977		1980		1982		1984		1985		1987	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
National	41%	59%	45%	55%	44%	56%	45%	54%	43%	56%	47%	53%	42%	57%	40%	59%	38%	51%
<b>Sex</b>																		
Male	20	80	24	76	23	77	23	76	21	79	28	72	19	81	21	78	17	83
Female	59	40	63	36	61	39	63	37	60	39	60	39	57	41	56	43	55	44
<b>Race</b>																		
White	39	61	43	57	44	56	43	57	42	58	45	55	39	60	38	62	36	63
Black/other	54	45	60	40	48	51	59	40	52	47	61	39	54	43	60	39	50	50
<b>Age</b>																		
18 to 20 years	33	67	43	55	45	55	45	55	45	54	28	72	27	73	24	76	38	62
21 to 29 years	40	59	44	56	40	60	39	60	41	59	47	52	39	59	40	59	40	59
30 to 49 years	40	60	40	59	40	60	41	59	39	60	43	57	37	62	35	64	34	66
50 years and older	43	57	50	50	49	51	51	48	47	52	50	49	49	49	46	53	43	56
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																		
College	35	64	42	57	36	64	41	58	42	58	49	50	40	59	36	63	38	62
High school graduate	44	55	44	55	47	52	46	53	44	55	46	54	42	57	41	58	39	61
Less than high school graduate	41	58	51	49	48	52	47	52	42	57	43	56	46	51	51	48	39	59
<b>Income</b>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																		
Professional/business	38	62	39	60	40	60	40	60	42	58	50	50	40	59	36	63	37	63
Clerical/support	55	44	59	40	56	43	60	39	53	46	57	43	51	48	46	53	47	53
Manual/service	41	58	40	60	40	60	41	59	38	62	39	60	39	60	41	58	36	63
Farming/agriculture	26	72	28	72	14	84	17	83	15	82	8	92	13	87	19	81	18	82
<b>Region</b>																		
Northeast	47	52	47	53	54	46	53	47	47	53	46	54	44	55	44	55	34	66
Midwest	40	60	39	60	34	66	36	63	33	66	40	60	35	64	30	68	37	63
South	39	61	47	53	42	58	47	52	44	55	50	50	48	51	44	56	42	58
West	38	61	48	51	50	50	46	54	52	48	53	47	39	61	44	55	40	60
<b>Religion</b>																		
Protestant	41	59	43	56	43	57	45	55	43	56	45	54	44	55	41	58	37	63
Catholic	43	56	50	48	46	54	45	54	45	55	49	51	40	58	39	60	43	56
Jewish	44	56	50	50	63	37	60	40	50	50	81	19	59	41	53	47	47	53
None	32	68	38	62	43	57	40	59	38	62	40	60	22	77	36	64	36	64
<b>Politics</b>																		
Republican	35	65	48	52	42	57	44	56	41	57	43	57	42	56	36	63	35	65
Democrat	46	53	45	54	49	50	48	52	46	54	51	49	46	52	47	52	40	60
Independent	39	61	42	58	39	61	41	58	41	59	44	56	37	62	35	63	39	60

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
40%	59%	40%	60%	41%	58%	43%	56%	43%	57%	47%	52%	42%	57%	41%	57%	39%	60%
16	83	19	80	19	81	24	76	26	73	30	69	26	74	26	74	23	76
56	42	55	45	58	41	58	41	55	44	60	39	55	44	52	46	52	47
39	60	38	62	39	60	41	59	40	60	45	54	40	59	40	59	38	61
45	53	52	46	50	48	56	44	58	42	56	43	51	48	47	51	45	54
27	73	47	53	43	57	52	48	31	66	44	56	45	55	45	55	40	58
38	61	42	58	33	65	40	60	40	60	49	50	39	60	41	57	41	58
32	67	33	67	38	62	39	61	38	62	43	57	40	59	39	60	36	63
51	48	45	54	48	51	49	49	51	48	51	47	45	54	44	54	41	56
36	62	40	60	39	60	43	56	42	58	45	54	40	59	42	57	38	61
41	58	38	62	41	58	42	58	44	56	48	51	43	56	37	62	38	61
51	49	45	55	51	48	50	50	45	55	53	47	44	54	46	51	44	54
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	39	61	41	59	34	66	31	68	28	71
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	37	63	42	58	42	58	38	62	34	66
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	43	57	46	53	43	57	42	58	42	58
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	51	49	54	45	48	50	51	46	50	48
37	62	41	59	36	63	39	61	44	56	44	55	39	60	39	60	34	65
54	46	49	51	56	42	51	48	43	57	58	41	51	47	54	44	54	45
35	64	33	67	38	61	41	59	42	58	42	57	40	60	34	64	37	62
18	82	20	80	28	72	24	76	24	76	36	64	27	70	36	64	31	69
41	57	35	65	40	59	36	62	44	56	44	56	41	58	41	57	37	62
33	66	39	61	36	64	42	57	34	66	39	60	39	60	35	64	34	64
44	56	42	58	46	52	43	57	46	54	54	45	44	55	44	54	42	57
43	57	41	59	41	58	51	49	48	52	46	53	42	57	44	56	42	57
42	57	41	58	43	56	45	54	44	56	48	52	44	55	40	58	39	59
38	60	38	62	38	61	36	63	41	59	45	54	36	63	43	56	41	58
71	24	53	47	61	39	67	33	65	35	58	39	51	46	65	35	36	64
22	77	34	66	32	64	39	61	33	66	41	58	34	65	40	58	35	64
41	59	37	62	41	58	36	63	42	58	45	54	36	64	36	63	33	66
44	56	46	54	47	52	48	51	48	51	51	49	51	48	46	53	43	56
35	63	33	67	35	64	44	56	39	61	44	55	38	61	40	58	39	59

Table 2.42

**Attitudes toward the causes of crime in the United States**

United States, 1993 and 2000

Question: "Next, I'm going to read some reasons that have been given as the causes of crime in this country. While some people view all of these as important causes of crime, we'd like to know which factors you think are the most important. As I read each item, please tell me whether you think it is a critical factor, a very important factor, a somewhat important factor, or not an important factor. How about. . .?"

	Critical	Very important	Somewhat important	Not important
<u>The use of drugs</u>				
1993	64%	30%	4%	2%
2000	59	31	8	2
<u>Lack of moral training in the home</u>				
1993	51	38	10	1
2000	51	38	9	1
<u>Absence of fathers in the homes of young people</u>				
1993	36	35	22	6
2000	45	36	16	3
<u>The availability of guns</u>				
1993	45	26	18	10
2000	40	26	20	13
<u>Violence on TV</u>				
1993	38	29	21	11
2000	35	31	26	8
<u>The decline of religion</u>				
1993	29	31	25	13
2000	32	31	26	10
<u>Poor quality of schools</u>				
1993	34	39	19	7
2000	31	42	21	6
<u>Racism in American society</u>				
1993	31	30	27	10
2000	29	36	27	7
<u>Lack of good jobs for young people</u>				
1993	32	38	22	7
2000	23	35	31	10

Note: See Note, table 2.17. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.43

**Respondents reporting whether they engaged in selected behaviors because of concern over crime**

United States, 2000

Question: "Next, I'm going to read some things people do because of their concern over crime. Please tell me which, if any, of these things you, yourself, do or have done."

	Yes	No
Avoid going to certain places or neighborhoods you might otherwise want to go to	56%	44%
Had special locks installed in your home	39	60
Keep a dog for protection	32	68
Had a burglar alarm installed in your home	23	76
Bought a gun for protection of yourself or your home	22	78
Carry mace or pepper spray	18	82
Taken a self-defense course	18	82
Carry a gun for defense	12	87
Carry a knife for defense	10	90

Note: See Note, table 2.17. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.44

**Attitudes toward contributions to violence in society**

United States, 1994, 1999, and 2001

Question: "Our society is often described as being more inclined toward violence than some others. Do you think that. . .contribute(s) a lot, contribute(s) a little, or don't/doesn't contribute at all to this violence?"

(Percent responding "contributes a lot")

	1994	1999	2001
Lack of adult supervision of children	89%	90%	86%
Easy availability of handguns	70	65	60
Television	61	58	55
Movies	60	57	53
Video games	38	47	47
Local TV news reports	35	39	30

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,011 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Mar. 22-26, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Apr. 25, 2001), p. 3. Reprinted by permission.



Table 2.45

**Respondents' perceptions about the primary cause of gun violence**

By sex, United States, 2000

Question: "Which of the following do you think is the primary cause of gun violence in America--the availability of guns, the way parents raise their children, or the influences of popular culture such as movies, television, and the Internet?"

	Total	Male	Female
Availability of guns	21%	18%	24%
The way parents raise their children	45	51	38
Influences of popular culture	26	23	29
Other <sup>a</sup>	6	5	7
No opinion	2	3	2

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,031 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 5-7, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000512c.asp> [May 22, 2000]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.46

**Attitudes toward approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United States**United States, selected years 1989-2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Which of the following approaches to lowering the crime rate in the United States comes closer to your own view--do you think more money and effort should go to attacking the social and economic problems that lead to crime through better education and job training or more money and effort should go to deterring crime by improving law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges?"

	Attack social problems	More law enforcement	No opinion
1989	61%	32%	7%
1990	57	36	2
March 1992	64	27	9
August 1992	67	25	8
February 1994	57	39	4
August 1994	51	42	7
2000	68	27	5

Note: See [Note, table 2.17](#). In years prior to 2000, the question wording was: "To lower the crime rate in the United States, some people think additional money and effort should go to attacking the social and economic problems that lead to crime through better education and job training. Others feel more money and effort should go to deterring crime by improving law enforcement with more prisons, police, and judges. Which comes closer to your view?" For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.47

**Respondents' perceptions of the Nation's progress in coping with illegal drugs**United States, selected years 1972-2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Now, how much progress do you feel the nation has made over the last year or two in coping with the problem of illegal drugs--has it made much progress, made some progress, stood still, lost some ground, or lost much ground?"

	Made much progress	Made some progress	Stood still	Lost some ground	Lost much ground	No opinion
1972	3%	32%	20%	21%	20%	5%
1974	4	36	21	19	16	5
1976	2	25	29	25	15	4
1995	2	36	30	19	11	2
1996	3	28	22	24	22	1
1999	4	42	27	14	12	1
2000	6	41	23	17	12	1

Note: See [Note, table 2.17](#). For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not sum to 100 due to rounding.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr001212b.asp> [Apr. 2, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.48

**Respondents' ratings of the effectiveness of selected approaches to control drug use**

United States, 2001

Question: "I'm going to mention some actions the government could take to control the use of drugs. I'd like you to rate the effectiveness of each. First, would a big government push to . . . be very effective in controlling drugs, only somewhat effective, or not very effective at all?"

	Very effective	Somewhat effective	Not very effective
Stop the illegal importation of drugs from other countries	52%	27%	19%
Arrest people who sell illegal drugs in this country	49	33	17
Provide drug treatment programs for drug users	36	43	19
Educate Americans about the dangers of using illegal drugs	35	41	22
Arrest drug users in this country	30	34	34

Note: See [Note, table 2.3](#). The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, *NEWSRelease* (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), p. 30. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.49

**Attitudes toward jailing people for possessing drugs**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. . . Too many people are put in jail just for possessing drugs."

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
National	47%	47%	6%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	53	41	6
Female	40	53	7
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	45	49	6
Nonwhite	53	41	6
Black	47	48	5
Hispanic	60	36	4
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	50	47	3
30 to 49 years	48	48	4
50 to 64 years	45	48	7
65 years and older	41	48	11
<u>Education</u>			
College graduate	50	41	9
Some college	46	51	3
High school graduate	41	52	7
Less than high school graduate	53	43	4
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	50	46	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	49	47	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	44	51	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	46	50	4
Under \$20,000	50	44	6
<u>Community</u>			
Large city	50	42	8
Suburb	50	43	7
Small city/town	48	48	4
Rural area	36	58	6
<u>Region</u>			
East	48	46	6
Midwest	40	54	6
South	46	48	6
West	54	40	6
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	38	57	5
Democrat	50	44	6
Independent	54	42	4

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 17, 18. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.50

**Attitudes toward treating drug use as a crime or a disease**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "All in all, should drug use be treated more like a crime or more like a disease?"

	Treat as crime	Treat as disease	Both	Neither/ don't know
National	35%	52%	9%	4%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	36	53	8	3
Female	35	51	10	4
<u>Race</u>				
White	35	52	9	4
Nonwhite	35	55	8	2
Black	37	49	11	3
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 29 years	35	58	1	6
30 to 49 years	32	54	12	2
50 to 64 years	35	50	12	3
65 years and older	44	41	8	7
<u>Education</u>				
College graduate	29	56	12	3
Some college	33	57	5	5
High school graduate	39	48	9	4
Less than high school graduate	42	47	7	4
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	41	50	6	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	30	54	14	2
\$30,000 to \$49,999	31	59	8	2
\$20,000 to \$29,999	35	50	10	5
Under \$20,000	38	49	8	5
<u>Community</u>				
Large city	30	54	11	5
Suburb	37	51	8	4
Small city/town	34	56	7	3
Rural area	41	43	13	3
<u>Region</u>				
East	41	45	7	7
Midwest	32	57	8	3
South	33	53	10	4
West	37	50	11	2
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	48	38	10	4
Democrat	30	61	7	2
Independent	32	54	9	5

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 17, 18. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.51

**Respondents indicating too little is spent on selected problems in this country**

United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of the problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (problem) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (problem)?"

(Percent responding "too little")

	Halting the rising crime rate	Dealing with drug addiction	Improving the Nation's edu- cation system	Improving the conditions of blacks	Welfare
1973	64%	65%	49%	32%	20%
1974	66	60	50	31	22
1975	65	55	49	27	23
1976	65	58	50	27	13
1977	65	55	48	25	12
1978	64	55	52	24	13
1981	69	59	52	24	13
1982	71	57	56	28	20
1983	67	60	60	29	21
1984	68	63	64	35	24
1985	63	62	60	31	18
1986	64	58	60	34	22
1987	68	65	62	35	21
1988	72	71	66	38	24
1989	73	71	69	36	24
1990	70	64	71	37	22
1991	65	58	67	34	22
1993	71	60	67	36	16
1994	75	60	71	31	13
1996	67	58	68	32	15
1998	61	58	70	34	16
2000	59	59	71	34	20

Note: See Note, table 2.19. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.52

**Attitudes toward the level of spending to halt the rising crime rate**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1984-2000

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of these problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (halting the rising crime rate) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (halting the rising crime rate)?"

	1984			1985			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
National	68%	25%	4%	63%	28%	5%	64%	27%	5%	68%	24%	4%	68%	23%	4%	72%	20%	5%
<b>Sex</b>																		
Male	64	28	6	61	29	7	59	32	6	66	26	4	67	25	4	70	20	7
Female	71	21	3	66	26	4	67	24	4	70	22	4	69	22	4	74	19	3
<b>Race</b>																		
White	67	26	5	63	28	5	63	28	5	68	24	4	67	24	4	71	21	5
Black/other	74	19	4	62	26	9	68	20	4	70	23	5	73	19	6	81	13	3
<b>Age</b>																		
18 to 20 years	67	25	8	80	20	0	75	20	0	68	21	5	63	26	0	67	29	0
21 to 29 years	68	28	3	67	29	2	65	29	4	65	27	5	63	32	2	72	20	6
30 to 49 years	68	24	5	62	30	5	62	30	4	65	26	5	74	19	4	71	20	5
50 years and older	67	24	5	62	26	8	64	24	6	74	19	3	66	22	6	74	18	4
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																		
College	68	28	3	61	30	4	62	30	3	62	30	5	71	24	2	72	21	4
High school graduate	69	21	6	67	26	5	66	25	6	73	19	4	68	24	3	73	19	5
Less than high school graduate	63	28	2	52	30	15	60	24	6	74	19	3	61	17	12	73	16	6
<b>Income</b>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																		
Professional/business	62	32	5	63	28	4	60	32	3	62	29	4	68	25	4	72	19	5
Clerical/support	76	20	2	68	23	5	68	23	5	61	36	3	66	25	5	80	18	0
Manual/service	68	23	6	62	28	7	65	23	7	75	16	5	70	22	2	70	22	6
Farming/agriculture	64	36	0	46	46	4	68	32	0	76	18	0	70	20	0	77	8	15
<b>Region</b>																		
Northeast	75	18	6	60	28	6	63	30	3	63	28	7	70	22	3	73	20	3
Midwest	70	25	2	62	29	6	63	27	4	73	20	3	63	28	3	70	24	4
South	65	26	4	67	24	4	66	22	7	68	22	4	72	20	5	76	16	4
West	62	29	7	60	32	6	62	33	3	67	27	4	67	24	5	69	20	8
<b>Religion</b>																		
Protestant	68	24	4	63	29	6	64	26	4	70	22	5	66	24	4	74	20	4
Catholic	70	24	4	66	24	5	66	27	3	66	30	2	72	21	3	72	21	5
Jewish	67	33	0	76	6	12	52	39	9	60	40	0	94	6	0	91	9	0
None	56	31	11	52	37	2	54	28	14	64	19	7	64	29	4	57	22	12
<b>Politics</b>																		
Republican	63	29	4	62	29	6	61	32	3	63	30	3	67	26	5	72	24	3
Democrat	72	23	3	66	27	4	70	23	4	74	19	4	72	21	4	80	12	5
Independent	68	23	6	61	29	6	59	29	6	64	26	6	67	22	3	63	25	7

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
70%	22%	4%	65%	27%	5%	71%	20%	5%	75%	16%	6%	67%	23%	7%	61%	28%	7%	59%	32%	5%
70	22	5	58	33	6	65	26	7	72	19	7	64	26	8	57	31	10	55	36	7
70	22	3	69	23	4	76	16	4	78	14	6	70	21	6	64	26	5	62	29	4
68	23	4	63	29	4	70	22	4	74	16	7	65	24	8	59	30	7	57	34	6
78	14	6	75	17	6	76	15	8	80	14	3	76	19	4	70	22	6	67	25	4
64	24	8	56	44	0	67	24	0	82	15	3	76	13	5	67	24	7	54	40	2
72	24	1	63	26	6	78	17	4	84	12	3	71	24	4	62	32	4	59	35	3
69	22	5	61	32	5	71	22	5	74	19	6	69	23	7	59	29	8	61	31	5
70	20	4	71	22	4	67	21	6	72	15	8	62	24	8	62	27	7	56	33	7
71	23	3	58	32	6	72	23	4	74	18	6	66	25	7	57	32	7	56	36	5
70	20	5	70	25	3	73	17	6	77	14	6	71	21	5	65	25	6	64	28	5
58	29	6	70	15	9	58	25	9	72	14	8	66	19	8	68	22	8	62	27	6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	21	2	72	20	7	64	27	8	55	34	7	56	40	3
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	75	19	4	76	17	6	67	24	7	60	29	8	63	28	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	17	5	79	15	4	71	20	6	71	22	6	58	33	6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	68	21	6	76	13	6	69	22	6	64	26	6	60	30	4
66	26	3	58	32	7	68	25	5	73	20	5	64	26	8	57	31	8	54	39	4
74	19	2	69	26	2	76	16	4	77	12	7	69	23	7	65	30	4	63	29	4
70	20	6	66	26	5	72	19	5	78	13	6	71	20	5	63	26	8	62	28	7
57	21	14	76	18	6	53	20	27	48	31	17	57	24	10	69	23	8	64	24	4
70	25	3	67	30	2	72	21	3	76	17	4	64	27	7	58	34	5	58	34	5
63	28	2	67	27	4	71	22	2	76	18	3	70	23	4	60	28	8	59	31	6
75	16	5	66	24	7	71	17	7	74	14	8	68	20	8	66	24	7	64	29	4
69	18	7	56	31	5	68	24	6	75	16	7	66	23	8	55	31	8	50	39	8
71	21	4	66	25	5	70	20	5	75	16	6	67	23	7	65	27	6	62	29	6
67	25	4	66	30	3	76	20	2	79	14	6	68	23	6	62	30	6	62	32	4
71	18	12	56	33	6	77	18	0	75	18	4	67	26	0	58	38	0	41	48	7
67	28	2	58	36	4	65	24	10	69	22	9	61	26	9	50	33	11	47	41	8
65	27	6	62	30	6	68	25	3	70	19	8	63	24	10	56	34	8	59	32	7
70	23	2	71	24	3	75	18	5	79	14	4	68	24	4	67	22	6	60	31	5
76	17	4	62	27	6	71	18	6	76	16	5	69	22	7	61	30	5	58	34	5

Table 2.53

**Attitudes toward the level of spending to deal with drug addiction**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1984-2000

Question: "We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. I'm going to name some of these problems, and for each one I'd like you to tell me whether you think we're spending too much money on it, too little money, or about the right amount. First (dealing with drug addiction) are we spending too much, too little, or about the right amount on (dealing with drug addiction)?"

	1984			1985			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
National	63%	27%	6%	62%	28%	5%	58%	32%	6%	65%	28%	4%	68%	24%	4%	71%	19%	6%
<b>Sex</b>																		
Male	62	27	7	61	27	8	55	36	7	62	31	4	72	21	5	74	15	7
Female	64	28	4	62	30	2	60	29	5	68	26	4	66	27	3	68	22	6
<b>Race</b>																		
White	63	28	5	62	28	5	57	32	6	66	28	4	67	25	4	69	20	6
Black/other	65	24	9	59	30	9	66	27	5	60	28	6	75	20	5	80	11	6
<b>Age</b>																		
18 to 20 years	58	42	0	60	40	0	50	40	10	58	26	10	50	40	5	67	33	0
21 to 29 years	59	35	4	62	29	6	53	42	4	57	40	2	57	34	7	69	22	7
30 to 49 years	67	24	6	64	29	5	59	33	6	65	29	4	73	22	2	72	18	6
50 years and older	62	25	8	61	26	6	60	24	7	70	22	6	71	20	4	71	18	7
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																		
College	63	30	4	59	32	5	54	39	5	59	36	4	70	25	4	74	19	4
High school graduate	64	27	6	67	25	5	61	28	7	69	23	4	67	26	3	69	19	8
Less than high school graduate	61	22	12	49	31	11	58	23	7	71	19	5	68	17	8	65	20	12
<b>Income</b>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																		
Professional/business	62	30	5	59	31	5	54	37	6	63	31	5	68	25	4	73	18	6
Clerical/support	63	32	3	61	32	3	62	30	2	61	34	5	64	29	3	67	23	4
Manual/service	65	23	7	64	25	7	60	28	8	67	26	4	72	22	4	71	18	7
Farming/agriculture	64	27	9	50	38	8	63	32	5	65	24	12	90	10	0	77	8	15
<b>Region</b>																		
Northeast	70	23	6	66	25	6	54	34	4	71	26	2	71	23	5	69	20	4
Midwest	62	30	4	61	29	5	61	30	5	61	32	4	68	27	2	73	18	6
South	64	25	6	62	26	6	58	30	8	66	26	5	66	24	4	71	18	7
West	56	33	6	59	35	4	58	34	7	62	30	6	70	21	6	70	21	7
<b>Religion</b>																		
Protestant	61	28	6	64	28	4	60	29	7	67	26	4	68	24	4	72	18	7
Catholic	69	25	5	62	29	6	55	37	4	64	32	3	71	24	3	69	23	3
Jewish	78	22	0	65	18	6	52	35	4	60	20	20	67	33	0	91	9	0
None	56	33	8	49	38	6	54	33	7	51	37	7	64	23	9	59	21	16
<b>Politics</b>																		
Republican	57	30	8	58	31	5	52	37	7	58	38	3	68	26	4	69	23	5
Democrat	64	28	5	64	27	5	62	29	6	74	20	4	70	24	4	80	12	5
Independent	67	24	4	63	27	6	58	30	6	57	32	6	67	24	4	61	26	9

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much	Too little	About right	Too much
64%	26%	7%	58%	32%	7%	60%	27%	8%	60%	26%	9%	58%	27%	11%	58%	28%	9%	59%	28%	8%
60	28	8	48	41	8	55	32	9	57	28	11	58	26	12	56	28	12	57	29	10
67	24	5	64	26	7	64	23	7	62	25	7	58	27	10	60	28	7	60	27	7
63	27	6	54	34	8	58	29	8	57	28	10	55	29	12	56	29	10	57	29	9
68	20	7	72	19	4	73	19	7	73	17	5	71	18	8	66	23	6	63	24	6
68	24	8	69	31	0	62	33	5	58	33	6	66	26	3	42	44	9	58	26	9
66	28	4	57	34	7	61	32	4	66	28	3	60	31	6	53	33	8	56	32	9
66	26	5	58	32	8	60	28	8	58	30	8	57	28	13	62	25	10	60	29	8
61	26	9	56	30	8	60	24	10	60	20	12	58	23	12	58	28	9	58	25	9
64	29	6	52	36	8	56	32	8	55	32	9	55	30	12	58	28	10	54	32	9
67	22	7	60	31	7	65	23	6	66	22	7	61	26	10	56	30	8	64	21	8
50	28	13	72	16	6	58	18	18	56	17	15	64	19	10	62	23	11	61	26	7
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	55	31	9	58	30	10	53	31	14	57	32	8	58	33	6
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	62	28	7	56	32	8	57	30	11	58	30	10	61	26	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	66	26	7	68	24	8	64	26	8	61	24	10	57	31	8
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	62	25	8	62	21	9	61	24	9	60	26	9	63	22	9
62	30	6	53	34	11	54	34	9	55	30	10	53	29	14	55	32	9	52	34	8
68	26	3	61	28	6	66	20	9	61	28	7	58	26	13	61	26	9	62	24	7
63	24	9	56	34	7	64	25	7	65	22	8	62	25	8	58	26	11	63	24	9
71	14	14	53	35	0	50	36	14	52	38	7	48	19	14	77	15	8	44	28	24
58	29	8	56	34	7	67	21	8	61	25	8	57	28	12	59	30	8	60	29	8
63	28	7	57	35	6	58	30	6	59	31	7	61	25	10	59	27	8	61	26	8
71	23	4	64	25	8	61	26	10	62	23	10	57	26	12	68	20	12	58	27	8
61	25	9	48	38	8	55	32	6	56	28	9	58	28	10	53	23	16	56	31	10
67	25	6	60	29	6	60	26	8	62	25	8	60	26	10	55	31	10	60	27	8
58	30	8	55	36	6	60	30	10	58	28	9	60	26	10	59	28	10	61	25	10
65	29	0	48	28	22	54	27	9	64	29	7	59	26	11	60	28	9	48	44	7
57	26	12	42	42	1	56	31	10	53	29	13	52	28	15	58	25	8	55	30	7
60	32	7	51	37	10	50	34	12	54	31	9	49	32	16	54	34	10	54	32	10
64	25	6	66	23	6	70	23	4	67	22	7	68	22	7	64	25	7	62	27	8
69	22	6	55	35	6	58	27	8	58	28	9	57	27	11	57	27	10	58	27	8

Table 2.54

**Attitudes toward severity of courts in own area**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1984-2000

Question: "In general, do you think the courts in this area deal too harshly or not harshly enough with criminals?"

	1984			1985			1986			1987			1988			1989		
	Too harshly	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly	Not harshly enough	About right
National	3%	82%	11%	3%	84%	9%	3%	85%	8%	3%	79%	12%	4%	82%	10%	3%	84%	9%
<b>Sex</b>																		
Male	5	80	12	4	84	10	4	84	8	4	78	14	5	79	13	4	79	12
Female	2	83	10	3	85	8	3	86	8	3	80	11	3	84	8	1	87	6
<b>Race</b>																		
White	3	84	10	3	85	9	2	87	8	2	81	12	3	83	10	2	83	10
Black/other	6	71	16	5	80	8	9	77	9	7	70	14	8	73	11	4	87	3
<b>Age</b>																		
18 to 20 years	7	73	11	6	78	14	8	79	8	0	76	17	8	84	8	10	83	8
21 to 29 years	6	78	12	6	79	10	5	81	9	4	78	9	8	77	10	2	86	8
30 to 49 years	3	83	11	3	85	9	3	86	8	4	78	13	3	82	11	3	83	9
50 years and older	6	84	11	2	87	8	2	88	7	2	82	12	2	83	9	2	84	9
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																		
College	2	82	11	3	83	11	2	84	9	3	77	14	3	78	13	2	81	10
High school graduate	4	82	10	4	86	7	3	88	7	3	84	9	4	85	7	3	86	8
Less than high school graduate	2	79	14	4	81	10	4	81	9	5	71	18	3	82	8	3	82	8
<b>Income</b>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																		
Professional/business	2	83	11	2	84	11	1	88	8	2	80	13	3	83	10	2	82	11
Clerical/support	2	86	9	2	90	6	4	88	7	2	81	12	3	84	9	1	87	7
Manual/service	4	80	11	5	83	8	4	83	9	5	78	11	4	81	10	4	84	8
Farming/agriculture	3	87	10	3	89	5	3	83	6	2	82	12	8	79	8	0	86	9
<b>Region</b>																		
Northeast	3	82	11	2	86	8	3	88	6	3	82	10	6	83	9	2	86	5
Midwest	4	82	11	3	85	9	3	87	7	4	80	10	4	80	11	3	81	12
South	3	80	11	4	82	11	4	82	10	4	78	14	3	83	10	3	86	8
West	2	83	11	4	84	8	3	85	8	3	79	12	5	80	8	3	80	11
<b>Religion</b>																		
Protestant	2	82	12	3	84	10	3	85	8	3	80	12	4	83	9	2	85	9
Catholic	4	82	10	3	87	8	2	88	6	2	81	12	3	86	9	3	83	9
Jewish	0	89	0	3	78	6	8	90	3	0	80	20	3	73	17	0	96	0
None	7	72	13	6	76	10	4	72	14	7	70	7	11	64	18	7	72	9
<b>Politics</b>																		
Republican	2	88	9	2	88	8	2	87	8	2	86	10	2	85	9	1	91	6
Democrat	4	80	11	3	84	10	3	88	6	4	78	13	5	80	10	3	83	10
Independent	3	80	12	5	82	8	3	82	10	4	76	12	4	80	11	4	77	10

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. The "about right" response was volunteered. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.



1990			1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right	Too harshly enough	Not harshly enough	About right
3%	83%	9%	4%	80%	11%	3%	81%	10%	3%	85%	8%	5%	78%	11%	6%	74%	13%	8%	68%	16%
3	82	11	5	78	12	5	81	10	3	83	9	5	78	11	7	72	15	8	67	18
4	83	8	3	81	11	2	82	10	2	87	6	4	78	10	6	76	12	7	70	14
3	84	9	3	80	12	2	82	10	2	86	8	3	79	11	4	75	13	6	70	16
8	77	8	10	76	8	9	76	11	5	82	8	11	72	10	12	71	12	14	64	14
10	80	5	3	70	20	16	74	7	7	70	14	11	75	5	12	65	14	15	60	14
5	80	9	8	77	9	2	86	8	4	81	9	6	76	10	10	71	11	10	65	14
4	81	10	4	80	11	4	81	9	2	87	7	5	79	11	7	75	12	8	68	16
2	86	8	3	81	12	2	81	11	2	86	7	3	78	11	4	76	15	5	70	16
4	82	10	4	78	12	3	80	11	2	84	10	5	76	12	6	72	15	8	66	17
4	83	9	5	82	9	4	84	8	4	87	6	3	82	9	5	78	12	7	73	13
3	86	6	2	78	17	5	78	9	3	86	6	6	77	9	9	74	11	9	69	14
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3	81	10	2	84	9	4	78	12	3	78	13	6	70	16
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	85	10	2	87	8	4	82	10	5	76	13	6	72	14
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	86	7	2	87	7	4	76	13	6	77	11	7	72	14
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	78	11	4	84	7	6	76	10	10	70	13	11	64	14
3	82	11	3	78	11	2	80	12	2	83	10	3	78	11	5	74	14	8	66	18
4	84	8	3	80	12	3	83	8	2	88	6	5	81	9	5	78	11	5	71	16
3	84	8	5	82	11	5	82	9	3	86	6	5	77	11	7	75	13	9	71	13
0	85	15	0	89	8	3	94	3	5	81	10	4	81	8	7	76	16	4	70	15
4	83	10	4	83	8	2	82	11	3	86	6	6	76	12	5	76	13	8	63	18
4	80	10	3	78	12	4	79	11	2	84	8	5	75	13	6	74	13	6	74	13
3	85	8	5	82	10	4	84	8	2	86	8	4	81	9	7	76	11	7	70	16
4	82	9	4	73	16	4	80	10	3	84	9	4	77	11	6	69	17	9	65	16
3	85	8	4	81	10	3	82	9	2	87	7	4	80	10	6	76	12	6	72	14
4	84	8	2	80	13	3	82	9	3	85	7	5	79	11	5	77	12	7	70	15
0	82	15	0	81	9	0	81	12	2	79	10	3	76	9	0	72	18	13	57	18
1	74	16	8	72	14	3	77	14	3	76	12	8	70	10	10	62	20	12	56	21
2	87	8	2	82	11	3	85	8	2	88	7	4	84	10	3	81	12	4	78	12
4	82	9	5	79	12	4	79	12	3	85	8	5	75	13	7	75	13	10	66	17
5	80	10	5	79	10	4	81	9	3	84	8	5	76	9	8	71	14	8	66	16

Table 2.55

**Attitudes toward availability of criminal records of ex-offenders**By race and income level, United States, 2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Some people believe that if a person convicted of a crime serves his or her sentence and then does not violate the law for a period, such as 5 years, government record agencies SHOULD NOT make that criminal record available to employers or licensing agencies. Other people believe employers and government licensing agencies SHOULD HAVE access to such government records, and be able to consider the fact of a conviction in the hiring or licensing process. Overall, which of these two approaches do you prefer?"

	Should not make criminal records available after a period of time	Should make criminal records available	Don't know
National	43%	52%	6%
<u>Race</u>			
White	40	55	5
Black	60	33	7
<u>Income</u>			
\$50,000 and over	37	58	5
Less than \$50,000	48	47	5

Note: See Note, table 2.15.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, **Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information**, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 42. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.56

**Attitudes toward State agencies putting criminal history records on the Internet**By age and Internet use, United States, 2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Some people believe that State government agencies that maintain criminal history records that are open to the general public under their State law should post these on the Internet, so that anyone who wanted to could check whether someone had such a record. Other people feel that even though such records could be obtained by applying to the government record agency for a copy, it isn't a good idea to put all those records on the Internet for anyone to obtain. Which would you prefer: State agencies putting all these records on the Internet, or not doing that?"

	Favor putting records on the Internet	Do not favor putting records on the Internet	Don't know
National	9%	90%	1%
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 34 years	13	87	(b)
35 to 54 years	8	90	1
55 years and older	4	94	3
<u>Internet use</u>			
Use	11	88	1
Don't use	5	93	2

Note: See Note, table 2.15.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.<sup>b</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, **Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information**, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 45. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.57

**Attitudes toward access to records of juveniles processed in juvenile courts**By race and education level, United States, 2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Today many States limit the availability of records about juveniles charged and processed in juvenile courts; for example, not allowing access to employers, government licensing agencies, or military enlistment offices. This is based on a judgment that juveniles should be given an opportunity to overcome youthful criminal behavior. Out of concern over current juvenile crimes, some people would open juvenile records to greater access. Please listen to the following two policies and indicate which ONE you think would be BEST."

	National	Race		Education	
		White	Black	No college	Some college
Keep restrictions on disclosure of juvenile court records, because giving juvenile offenders the chance to overcome a bad record is a sound approach.	53%	51%	69%	50%	56%
Open juvenile records to the same government and private organizations that can get adult criminal records, since protecting society and the public should be the primary concern.	40	43	22	44	37
Don't know/none of these	6	6	8	6	7

Note: See Note, table 2.15.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, **Public Attitudes Toward Uses of Criminal History Information**, NCJ 187663 (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, 2001), p. 40. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.58

**Attitudes toward the treatment of juveniles who commit violent crimes**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "In your view, how should juveniles between the ages of 14 and 17 who commit violent crimes be treated in the criminal justice system--should they be treated the same as adults, or should they be given more lenient treatment in a juvenile court?"

	Same as adults	More lenient treatment	Tougher <sup>a</sup>	Depends <sup>a</sup>	Don't know/refused
National	65%	24%	1%	9%	1%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	69	21	1	8	1
Female	61	27	2	9	1
<b>Race</b>					
White	67	22	1	9	1
Black	52	35	2	10	1
Nonwhite <sup>b</sup>	55	33	3	8	1
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 29 years	65	25	2	7	1
30 to 49 years	66	23	2	8	1
50 to 64 years	67	22	1	8	2
50 years and older	64	23	1	10	2
65 years and older	61	23	1	11	4
<b>Education</b>					
College post graduate	55	32	3	10	(c)
College graduate	63	29	0	8	0
Some college	68	21	1	9	1
High school graduate or less	66	22	2	8	2
<b>Income</b>					
\$75,000 and over	60	27	3	9	1
\$50,000 to \$74,999	69	20	2	9	0
\$30,000 to \$49,999	68	20	2	9	1
\$20,000 to \$29,999	61	24	0	13	2
Under \$20,000	64	28	(c)	6	2
<b>Community</b>					
Urban area	59	29	1	11	(c)
Suburban area	69	20	2	7	2
Rural area	65	24	1	8	2
<b>Region</b>					
East	60	26	2	9	3
Midwest	71	19	(c)	8	2
South	62	26	2	10	(c)
West	68	23	1	7	1
<b>Politics</b>					
Republican	67	19	2	10	2
Democrat	60	31	1	6	2
Independent	68	19	2	10	1

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.<sup>b</sup>Includes black respondents.<sup>c</sup>Less than 0.5%.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.59

**Attitudes toward the penalty for murder**United States, selected years 1985-2001<sup>a</sup>

Question: "What do you think should be the penalty for murder--the death penalty or life imprisonment with absolutely no possibility of parole?"

	Death penalty	Life imprisonment without possibility of parole	No opinion <sup>b</sup>
1985	56%	34%	10%
1986	55	35	10
1991	53	35	11
1992	50	37	13
1993	59	29	12
1994	50	32	18
1997	61	29	10
1999	56	38	6
2000	52	37	11
2001	57	41	3

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,016 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Feb. 19-21, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.<sup>b</sup>Includes volunteered responses such as "other," "neither," and "depends."Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010302.asp> [Mar. 2, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.60

**Attitudes toward the penalty for murder**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "If you could choose between the following two approaches, which do you think is the better penalty for murder—the death penalty or life imprisonment, with absolutely no possibility of parole?"<sup>a</sup>

	Death penalty	Life imprisonment without possibility of parole	Don't know/ refused
National	54%	42%	4%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	62	34	4
Female	46	51	3
<b>Race</b>			
White	59	37	4
Black	17	83	0
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	31	69	0
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 29 years	59	40	1
30 to 49 years	57	40	3
50 to 64 years	49	49	2
50 years and older	50	46	4
65 years and older	51	41	8
<b>Education</b>			
College post graduate	36	60	4
College graduate	44	55	1
Some college	62	35	3
High school graduate or less	59	38	3
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	53	42	5
\$50,000 and over <sup>b</sup>	59	38	3
\$30,000 to \$49,999	58	39	3
\$20,000 to \$29,999	50	48	2
Under \$20,000	45	51	4
<b>Community</b>			
Urban area	45	52	3
Suburban area	59	38	3
Rural area	57	36	7
<b>Region</b>			
East	53	44	3
Midwest	54	43	3
South	53	43	4
West	59	37	4
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	66	30	4
Democrat	41	56	3
Independent	54	43	3

Note: See Note, table 2.59. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.<sup>b</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.61

**Attitudes toward the death penalty**

United States, selected years 1965-2001

Question: "Do you believe in capital punishment, that is, the death penalty, or are you opposed to it?"

	Believe in it	Opposed to it	Not sure/ refused
1965	38%	47%	15%
1969	48	38	14
1970	47	42	11
1973	59	31	10
1976	67	25	8
1983	68	27	5
1997	75	22	3
1999	71	21	8
2000	64	25	11
2001	67	26	7

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,022 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted July 20-25, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: Harris Interactive, Inc., *The Harris Poll* (Los Angeles: Creators Syndicate, Inc., Aug. 17, 2001), p. 2. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.62

**Attitudes toward the death penalty**By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Do you believe in capital punishment, that is, the death penalty, or are you opposed to it?"

	Believe in it	Opposed to it	Not sure/ refused
National	67%	26%	7%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	74	22	4
Female	62	30	8
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>			
White	73	22	6
Black	46	43	10
Hispanic	63	33	4
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 24 years	72	23	5
25 to 29 years	66	23	11
30 to 39 years	71	24	5
40 to 49 years	63	33	4
50 to 64 years	66	28	6
65 years and older	67	22	11
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	53	40	7
College graduate	66	29	5
Some college	70	26	3
High school graduate or less	69	22	8
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	61	34	5
\$50,000 to \$74,999	73	25	2
\$35,000 to \$49,999	73	19	8
\$25,000 to \$34,999	65	27	8
\$15,000 to \$24,999	66	21	13
Less than \$15,000	67	29	4
<u>Region</u>			
East	65	31	4
Midwest	74	20	6
South	63	28	9
West	70	23	8
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	85	12	2
Democrat	54	36	10
Independent	68	25	6

Note: See Note, table 2.61. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.63

**Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1978-2000

Question: "Do you favor or oppose the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?"<sup>a</sup>

	1978		1980		1982		1983		1984		1985		1986		1987	
	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
National	66%	28%	67%	27%	74%	20%	73%	22%	70%	24%	76%	19%	71%	23%	70%	24%
<b>Sex</b>																
Male	74	24	75	21	80	16	80	16	77	19	80	17	79	17	73	22
Female	61	31	61	32	69	24	68	27	66	27	72	22	66	28	67	26
<b>Race</b>																
White	69	25	70	24	77	18	76	19	75	20	79	17	75	20	74	21
Black/other	44	48	40	51	51	42	49	44	46	46	53	35	49	43	46	43
<b>Age</b>																
18 to 20 years	63	33	70	27	68	26	64	29	68	27	69	29	68	24	64	36
21 to 29 years	64	31	66	31	74	20	74	22	76	19	75	20	72	23	69	27
30 to 49 years	67	28	69	26	74	21	76	19	70	24	76	18	70	27	74	21
50 years and older	68	25	66	25	74	20	71	25	67	26	76	20	74	20	66	26
<b>Education</b> <sup>a</sup>																
College	66	29	67	30	71	21	75	22	73	22	73	22	72	23	70	26
High school graduate	68	26	71	23	78	17	75	20	71	23	78	17	73	23	73	20
Less than high school graduate	60	31	56	33	64	26	61	29	59	33	72	21	64	26	54	38
<b>Income</b>																
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																
Professional/business	68	28	68	28	72	23	73	23	75	20	76	19	76	21	72	25
Clerical/support	72	23	69	26	79	17	78	18	71	23	76	19	70	25	74	19
Manual/service	65	28	68	26	73	21	71	23	69	25	76	19	69	25	68	24
Farming/agriculture	76	20	71	15	77	15	85	10	61	39	76	22	83	17	65	28
<b>Region</b>																
Northeast	67	28	68	26	74	22	70	25	74	20	74	21	70	26	72	23
Midwest	69	24	66	26	72	21	75	21	65	28	73	20	69	26	67	26
South	64	30	66	28	74	21	70	25	68	27	76	19	67	26	67	26
West	64	31	70	25	76	18	79	16	78	16	79	17	83	13	76	19
<b>Religion</b>																
Protestant	67	27	67	26	73	21	74	22	70	24	76	19	72	23	70	24
Catholic	68	27	71	23	76	20	72	22	72	23	78	19	69	26	70	24
Jewish	79	21	75	22	73	19	67	26	85	4	62	31	79	16	80	10
None	58	38	54	39	73	16	72	26	68	26	75	20	73	24	65	28
<b>Politics</b>																
Republican	73	23	77	18	79	16	85	13	80	16	83	13	80	15	83	14
Democrat	63	31	63	31	71	24	67	28	64	30	70	24	66	30	61	32
Independent	66	27	66	28	73	20	72	22	70	23	75	19	72	23	69	24

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
71%	22%	74%	20%	74%	19%	72%	22%	72%	21%	74%	20%	71%	22%	68%	25%	63%	29%
77	18	81	16	79	18	77	19	78	16	79	17	79	17	74	20	71	23
66	26	69	24	71	21	67	25	67	24	71	22	65	25	63	28	57	33
76	18	77	18	78	16	75	19	75	18	78	16	75	18	72	20	69	24
46	44	57	36	58	36	53	37	54	38	56	34	54	35	49	42	42	48
61	35	69	25	66	34	60	33	70	23	73	21	70	22	60	37	53	38
73	24	71	24	79	16	74	23	69	26	72	21	72	22	69	25	66	28
72	21	76	20	74	21	71	22	73	20	75	20	71	22	69	24	64	29
70	22	74	19	74	18	71	21	73	20	75	18	71	21	66	25	62	28
71	23	72	22	73	21	69	25	69	24	73	21	69	24	67	26	63	29
73	20	77	18	77	18	74	20	75	18	77	17	76	17	71	21	65	28
59	27	69	24	70	21	72	21	71	18	67	25	68	23	63	27	61	28
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	73	22	77	18	75	20	72	21	69	25
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	74	18	76	18	74	18	70	22	67	25
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	81	14	75	19	72	24	68	24	66	28
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	67	25	71	22	64	25	60	31	55	36
72	21	75	19	72	20	67	25	70	23	75	20	70	22	68	25	63	30
72	21	73	21	81	14	73	22	72	21	74	19	73	20	68	24	63	28
71	24	74	21	74	22	75	20	74	19	75	19	72	21	68	24	65	27
67	29	91	4	78	7	81	11	74	21	74	18	72	20	71	20	72	22
66	26	72	19	75	20	71	23	65	26	70	24	66	26	62	28	55	35
70	24	72	22	76	20	70	24	72	18	72	20	72	22	70	24	65	27
72	21	75	21	72	20	71	22	75	19	76	19	72	20	69	23	64	27
76	17	76	19	76	16	76	20	72	24	78	16	74	19	68	24	66	28
72	22	75	20	75	19	72	22	74	20	75	18	72	20	68	24	64	27
73	21	73	20	76	18	75	21	68	22	75	19	70	23	68	25	66	27
63	23	87	13	74	15	53	34	70	21	72	26	63	28	72	20	57	36
67	26	71	24	72	24	65	28	72	23	73	20	69	22	64	26	60	32
81	12	82	14	83	12	84	13	81	13	84	12	85	12	77	17	75	19
62	32	68	26	68	24	63	29	64	30	65	28	61	30	62	31	57	34
72	20	73	21	74	21	69	23	71	20	76	17	70	21	67	23	62	30

Table 2.64

**Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder**United States, selected years 1953-2001<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"

	Yes, in favor	No, not in favor	No opinion <sup>b</sup>
1953	68%	25%	7%
1956	53	34	13
1957	47	34	18
1960	53	36	11
1965	45	43	12
1966	42	47	11
1967	54	38	8
1969	51	40	9
1971	49	40	11
March 1972	50	41	9
November 1972	57	32	11
1976	66	26	8
1978	62	27	11
1981	66	25	9
January 1985	72	20	8
November 1985	75	17	8
1986	70	22	8
1988	79	16	5
1991	76	18	6
1994	80	16	4
1995	77	13	10
1999	71	22	7
2000	66	28	6
2001	67	25	8

Note: See Note, table 2.59. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

<sup>b</sup>May include other response categories such as "depends" or "refused."

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010302.asp> [Mar. 2, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.65

**Attitudes toward the death penalty for persons convicted of murder**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Are you in favor of the death penalty for a person convicted of murder?"

	Yes, in favor	No, not in favor	Don't know/ refused
National	67%	25%	8%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	73	20	7
Female	63	29	8
<u>Race</u>			
White	73	20	7
Black	24	61	15
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	37	52	11
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	63	34	3
30 to 49 years	69	20	11
50 to 64 years	69	26	5
50 years and older	69	26	5
65 years and older	69	26	5
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	61	35	4
College graduate	73	23	4
Some college	67	23	10
High school graduate or less	68	24	8
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	76	22	2
\$50,000 and over <sup>b</sup>	74	22	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	73	20	7
\$20,000 to \$29,999	63	20	17
Under \$20,000	56	36	8
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	62	31	7
Suburban area	66	25	9
Rural area	77	18	5
<u>Region</u>			
East	59	29	12
Midwest	73	21	6
South	66	26	8
West	74	23	3
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	79	16	5
Democrat	52	40	8
Independent	69	22	9

Note: See Note, table 2.59. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

<sup>b</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.



Table 2.66

**Reported reasons for favoring the death penalty for persons convicted of murder**

United States, 2001

Question: "Why do you favor the death penalty for persons convicted of murder?"

**Reason for favoring**

An eye for an eye/they took a life/fits the crime	48%
Save taxpayers money/cost associated with prison	20
Deterrent for potential crimes/set an example	10
They deserve it	6
Support/believe in death penalty	6
Depends on the type of crime they commit	6
They will repeat their crime/keep them from repeating it	6
Biblical reasons	3
Relieves prison overcrowding	2
If there's no doubt the person committed the crime	2
Life sentences don't always mean life in prison	2
Don't believe they can be rehabilitated	2
Serve justice	1
Fair punishment	1
Would help/benefit families of victims	1
Other	3
No opinion	1

Note: See Note, table 2.59. This question was asked only of the respondents who answered "yes, in favor" to the question presented in table 2.64. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010302.asp> [Mar. 2, 2001]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.67

**Attitudes toward the deterrent effect of the death penalty**By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Do you feel that executing people who commit murder deters others from committing murder, or do you think such executions don't have much effect?"

	Deters others	Not much effect	Not sure/refused
<b>National</b>	42%	52%	7%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	49	45	7
Female	35	59	6
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>			
White	45	49	6
Black	30	60	9
Hispanic	37	52	12
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 24 years	39	60	1
25 to 29 years	32	58	10
30 to 39 years	44	50	6
40 to 49 years	42	52	5
50 to 64 years	41	50	9
65 years and older	45	48	7
<b>Education</b>			
College post graduate	40	58	2
College graduate	36	58	6
Some college	42	54	4
High school graduate or less	44	48	8
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	43	53	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	41	55	4
\$35,000 to \$49,999	52	43	5
\$25,000 to \$34,999	41	48	10
\$15,000 to \$24,999	34	63	3
Less than \$15,000	35	52	13
<b>Region</b>			
East	43	50	7
Midwest	40	53	8
South	41	53	6
West	43	54	3
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	58	35	6
Democrat	32	62	6
Independent	36	58	5

Note: See Note, table 2.61. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.68

**Respondents reporting having a gun in their home**

United States, selected years 1959-2000

Question: "Do you have a gun in your home?"<sup>a</sup>

	Yes	No
1959	49%	51%
1965	48	52
1968	50	50
1972	43	55
1975	44	54
1980	45	53
1983	40	58
1985	44	55
1989	47	51
1990	47	52
1991	46	53
March 1993	48	51
October 1993	51	48
1996	38	60
1997	42	57
1999	36	62
2000	42	57

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,006 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 7-9, 2000. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

Source: George Gallup, Jr. and Alec Gallup, *The Gallup Poll Monthly*, No. 416 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, May 2000), p. 53. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.69

**Respondents reporting having a gun in their home**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Do you have a gun in your home?"<sup>a</sup>

	Yes	No
National	42%	57%
<u>Sex</u>		
Male	51	48
Female	34	65
<u>Race</u>		
White	45	54
Black	26	70
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	26	70
<u>Age</u>		
18 to 29 years	32	67
30 to 49 years	45	54
50 to 64 years	48	52
65 years and older	42	56
<u>Education</u>		
College post graduate	45	55
College graduate	37	62
Some college	41	58
High school graduate or less	44	55
<u>Income</u>		
\$75,000 and over	47	53
\$50,000 and over <sup>b</sup>	49	50
\$30,000 to \$49,999	48	51
\$20,000 to \$29,999	37	63
Under \$20,000	29	70
<u>Community</u>		
Urban area	32	66
Suburban area	40	59
Rural area	57	42
<u>Region</u>		
East	28	72
Midwest	45	54
South	52	46
West	37	61
<u>Politics</u>		
Republican	50	50
Democrat	35	65
Independent	42	56

Note: See Note, table 2.68. The "don't know/refused" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

<sup>b</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.70

**Respondents reporting a firearm in their home**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1973-2000

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home (or garage) any guns or revolvers?"

(Percent reporting having any firearms)

	1973	1974	1976	1977	1980	1982	1984	1985	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1993	1994	1996	1998	2000
National	47%	46%	47%	51%	48%	45%	45%	44%	46%	40%	46%	43%	40%	42%	41%	40%	35%	32%
<b>Sex</b>																		
Male	53	51	52	55	56	54	53	54	51	50	55	53	50	53	50	47	43	42
Female	43	42	43	47	41	39	40	36	43	33	39	34	32	34	33	34	29	25
<b>Race</b>																		
White	49	48	58	53	50	48	48	46	49	43	50	45	42	45	44	44	40	37
Black/other	38	32	37	34	29	30	30	29	33	28	23	29	29	26	24	24	16	13
<b>Age</b>																		
18 to 20 years	50	34	38	54	48	51	44	39	43	33	35	40	22	48	42	35	20	23
21 to 29 years	43	48	45	45	48	41	37	40	35	34	33	34	36	38	34	32	23	24
30 to 49 years	51	49	52	55	50	51	48	48	51	42	48	46	40	44	41	39	37	32
50 years and older	46	44	44	49	46	44	49	44	47	42	50	42	42	42	43	47	39	38
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																		
College	45	42	44	45	41	39	42	40	43	37	41	37	34	38	38	38	31	33
High school graduate	50	48	50	54	51	51	48	49	50	43	51	47	46	46	44	46	43	36
Less than high school graduate	44	49	42	51	51	41	43	38	44	39	46	47	39	47	37	38	34	25
<b>Income</b>																		
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	49	52	49	43	43
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	48	50	44	42	37
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	44	38	44	32	37
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	32	28	26	22	18
<b>Occupation</b>																		
Professional/business	48	45	46	48	45	42	42	40	45	39	46	38	35	38	38	39	35	32
Clerical/support	42	43	40	49	45	39	41	40	45	37	37	38	35	36	36	40	31	28
Manual/service	48	48	48	52	48	49	48	48	46	41	52	50	47	51	45	43	38	35
Farming/agriculture	83	79	62	66	81	77	84	78	75	82	87	83	56	68	67	67	72	44
<b>Region</b>																		
Northeast	22	27	29	32	27	32	32	28	31	25	32	30	28	29	26	24	22	18
Midwest	51	49	48	53	52	48	44	48	46	41	46	44	42	41	46	42	37	37
South	62	59	60	62	59	52	52	53	55	47	53	52	50	52	48	48	42	37
West	47	42	44	46	44	47	49	40	47	42	48	39	32	39	35	39	32	33
<b>Religion</b>																		
Protestant	56	52	53	57	56	52	52	50	52	46	53	48	46	47	46	46	42	37
Catholic	35	37	36	39	36	36	34	35	36	31	36	36	30	36	34	34	27	26
Jewish	14	7	26	17	6	11	22	9	25	0	18	6	10	9	18	11	12	19
None	32	40	43	50	39	37	36	44	39	41	36	34	31	37	32	35	26	32
<b>Politics</b>																		
Republican	53	49	50	56	53	50	56	47	51	46	50	48	42	51	49	49	46	46
Democrat	44	45	45	49	46	44	42	47	44	39	43	40	41	35	37	35	30	27
Independent	49	47	48	50	47	44	40	39	44	36	46	42	37	42	39	38	32	30

Note: See Note, table 2.19. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

Table 2.71

**Respondents reporting a firearm in their home**

By type of firearm and demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home (or garage) any guns or revolvers?" If yes, "Is it a pistol, shotgun, rifle, or what?"

(Percent reporting having a firearm)

	Firearm in the home			
	Any type	Type of firearm <sup>a</sup>		
		Pistol	Shotgun	Rifle
National	32%	62%	58%	62%
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	42	62	65	64
Female	25	61	49	57
<b>Race</b>				
White	37	61	59	64
Black/other	13	72	41	35
<b>Age</b>				
18 to 20 years	23	62	69	92
21 to 29 years	24	55	54	57
30 to 49 years	32	60	55	60
50 years and older	38	64	61	62
<b>Education</b>				
College	33	63	54	59
High school graduate	36	66	63	65
Less than high school graduate	25	44	62	63
<b>Income</b>				
\$50,000 and over	43	64	58	67
\$30,000 to \$49,999	37	59	60	65
\$20,000 to \$29,999	37	62	56	57
Under \$20,000	18	51	54	45
<b>Occupation</b>				
Professional/business	32	63	56	63
Clerical/support	28	66	50	55
Manual/service	35	60	60	64
Farming/agriculture	44	56	62	50
<b>Region</b>				
Northeast	18	52	51	70
Midwest	37	48	70	66
South	37	72	61	55
West	33	64	40	63
<b>Religion</b>				
Protestant	37	60	63	59
Catholic	26	62	46	62
Jewish	19	89	44	78
None	32	63	54	70
<b>Politics</b>				
Republican	46	60	62	64
Democrat	27	59	53	54
Independent	30	64	57	64

Note: See Note, table 2.19. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents for pistol, shotgun, and rifle are based on the 32% subsample of respondents reporting that they have a gun in their home. Percents add to more than 100 because some respondents reported owning more than one type.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.72

**Respondents reporting a firearm in their home**

By type of firearm and demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you happen to have in your home or garage any guns or revolvers?" If yes, "Do you have a . . . or not?"

(Percent reporting having a firearm)

	Firearm in the home				
	Any type	Type of firearm <sup>a</sup>			
		Pistol	Shotgun	Rifle	All three
National	39%	59%	73%	74%	41%
<b>Sex</b>					
Male	48	62	78	76	43
Female	31	55	67	70	37
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>					
White	45	59	75	75	42
Black	12	65	64	47	38
Hispanic	7	23	35	62	0
<b>Age</b>					
18 to 24 years	19	33	54	77	24
25 to 29 years	42	62	91	76	55
30 to 39 years	45	67	81	76	50
40 to 49 years	43	47	74	75	35
50 to 64 years	42	69	75	77	49
65 years and older	38	62	59	61	26
<b>Education</b>					
College post graduate	35	55	75	60	36
College graduate	35	69	72	69	45
Some college	42	65	68	79	42
High school graduate or less	39	54	77	74	40
<b>Income</b>					
\$75,000 and over	43	56	71	69	35
\$50,000 to \$74,999	51	61	74	76	45
\$35,000 to \$49,999	47	56	74	71	36
\$25,000 to \$34,999	34	60	80	88	46
\$15,000 to \$24,999	34	40	68	55	26
Under \$15,000	17	78	67	78	56
<b>Region</b>					
East	34	40	71	72	27
Midwest	39	53	82	74	39
South	43	67	77	74	47
West	38	68	60	75	45
<b>Politics</b>					
Republican	49	62	73	71	40
Democrat	28	63	70	77	47
Independent	41	53	74	76	36

Note: These data are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,014 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Apr. 26-May 5, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Percents for pistol, shotgun, and rifle are based on the 39% subsample of respondents reporting that they have a gun in their home. Percents add to more than 100 because some respondents reported owning more than one type.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.73

**Respondents reporting using a gun for defense or being threatened with a gun**

By sex, United States, 2000

Question	Yes	No
"Not including military combat, have you ever used a gun to defend yourself, either by firing it or threatening to fire it?"		
Total	7%	93%
Male	9	91
Female	5	95
"Not including military combat, has a gun ever been used to threaten you in a robbery, mugging or some other criminal situation?"		
Total	14	85
Male	18	82
Female	10	89
"Not including military combat, has a gun ever been used to threaten one or more of your children in a robbery, mugging or some other criminal situation?" <sup>a</sup>		
Total	2	98
Male	1	99
Female	3	97

Note: See Note, table 2.45. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>This question was asked of a subsample of 358 parents with children under 18 years of age.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000512c.asp> [May 22, 2000]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.74

**Attitudes toward gun control**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 1993, 1999, and 2000

Question: "What do you think is more important--to protect the right of Americans to own guns, OR to control gun ownership?"	Protect right to own guns			Control gun ownership		
	1993	1999	2000	1993	1999	2000
National	34%	30%	38%	57%	65%	57%
<b>Sex</b>						
Male	44	42	49	49	53	46
Female	26	19	28	64	75	67
<b>Race</b>						
White	37	32	41	54	63	53
Black	18	17	23	74	75	76
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	19	17	24	73	75	74
<b>Age</b>						
Under 30 years	32	26	33	64	71	65
30 to 49 years	36	30	39	57	65	57
50 to 64 years	35	36	46	55	59	49
65 years and older	35	30	35	49	61	53
<b>Education</b>						
College graduate	35	31	34	59	64	61
Some college	40	29	38	53	66	57
High school graduate	31	30	40	62	65	55
Less than high school graduate	33	30	42	50	63	53
<b>Income</b>						
\$50,000 and over	34	38	NA	59	59	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	37	31	42	57	64	54
\$20,000 to \$29,999	36	24	42	57	72	53
Under \$20,000	33	26	35	56	66	59
<b>Region</b>						
East	27	25	31	66	70	66
Midwest	33	31	43	60	65	52
South	39	30	41	51	64	55
West	36	33	36	55	60	56
<b>Politics</b>						
Republican	45	42	50	47	53	46
Democrat	25	19	28	65	76	67
Independent	38	33	41	56	63	56

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,303 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 2-6, 2000. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, *NEWSRelease*, May 20, 1999, p. 10; May 11, 2000, pp. 17, 18 (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.75

**Attitudes toward laws covering the sale of firearms**

United States, selected years 1990-2000

Question: "In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as they are now	No opinion
1990	78%	2%	17%	3%
1991	68	5	25	2
March 1993	70	4	24	2
December 1993	67	7	25	1
1995 <sup>a</sup>	62	12	24	2
1999	60	9	29	2
2000	62	5	31	2

Note: See Note, table 2.45. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup> Asked of half sample.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr000512c.asp> [May 22, 2000]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.76

**Attitudes toward laws covering the sale of firearms**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2000

Question: "In general, do you feel that the laws covering the sale of firearms should be made more strict, less strict, or kept as they are now?"

	More strict	Less strict	Kept as they are now
National	62%	5%	31%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	52	8	39
Female	72	2	24
<u>Race</u>			
White	61	5	32
Black	84	0	15
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	74	2	23
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	69	6	24
30 to 49 years	64	5	29
50 to 64 years	49	6	44
50 years and older	57	4	37
65 years and older	64	2	31
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	68	6	25
College graduate	67	7	24
Some college	59	5	35
High school graduate or less	62	4	32
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	65	5	29
\$50,000 and over <sup>b</sup>	62	6	31
\$30,000 to \$49,999	62	5	33
\$20,000 to \$29,999	62	4	33
Under \$20,000	70	6	21
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	67	5	27
Suburban area	65	5	28
Rural area	53	4	42
<u>Region</u>			
East	76	3	20
Midwest	59	5	35
South	59	5	35
West	57	7	33
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	44	9	44
Democrat	81	2	16
Independent	61	4	33

Note: See Note, table 2.45. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

<sup>b</sup>Includes \$75,000 and over category.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.77

**Attitudes toward a law restricting the possession of handguns**

United States, selected years 1959-2000

Question: "Do you think there should or should not be a law that would ban the possession of handguns, except by the police and other authorized persons?"

	Should	Should not	No opinion
1959	60%	36%	4%
1965	49	44	7
1975	41	55	4
January 1980	31	65	4
December 1980	38	51	11
April 1981	39	58	3
June 1981	41	54	5
1987	42	50	8
1988	37	59	4
1990	41	55	4
1991	43	53	4
March 1993	42	54	4
December 1993	39	60	1
1999	34	64	2
2000	36	62	2

Note: See Note, table 2.17. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline000829/topline000829.asp> [Mar. 20, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.78

**Attitudes toward handgun registration**

United States, selected years 1938 and 1982-2000

Question: "Would you favor or oppose the registration of all handguns?"

	Favor	Oppose	No opinion
1938 <sup>a</sup>	84%	16%	0%
1982	66	30	4
1985	70	25	5
1990	81	17	2
1991	80	17	3
1993	81	18	1
1999	79	19	2
2000	73	26	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,027 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Jan. 13-16, 2000. The Source did not provide data for years between 1938 and 1982. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Responses to the question: "Do you think all owners of pistols and revolvers should be required to register with the government?"

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/indicators/indguns.asp> [Mar. 21, 2000]. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.79

**Attitudes toward gun control**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "In general, would you say you favor stricter gun control, or less strict gun control?"

	Stricter	Less strict	Neither <sup>a</sup>	Not sure
National	62%	22%	9%	6%
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	51	31	11	5
Female	72	14	7	6
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>				
White	59	25	9	5
Black	78	14	5	2
Hispanic	68	17	7	6
<b>Age</b>				
18 to 24 years	65	22	6	5
25 to 29 years	55	26	15	4
30 to 39 years	58	26	8	8
40 to 49 years	61	24	6	6
50 to 64 years	72	18	6	4
65 years and older	57	17	17	6
<b>Education</b>				
College post graduate	66	20	12	1
College graduate	63	20	10	4
Some college	61	21	10	6
High school graduate or less	60	24	7	7
<b>Income</b>				
\$75,000 and over	59	21	13	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	59	28	7	5
\$35,000 to \$49,999	63	21	9	5
\$25,000 to \$34,999	65	23	6	5
\$15,000 to \$24,999	66	21	9	3
Under \$15,000	69	18	3	8
<b>Region</b>				
East	69	16	9	5
Midwest	57	27	8	6
South	60	24	8	7
West	62	21	11	5
<b>Politics</b>				
Republican	49	31	12	5
Democrat	75	15	5	4
Independent	61	16	13	7

Note: See Note, table 2.44. The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore, percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Page 154 intentionally blank.



Table 2.80

**Attitudes toward handgun control**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "In general, do you favor stricter or less strict laws relating to the control of handguns?"

	Stricter	Less strict	Neither <sup>a</sup>	Not sure
National	69%	18%	7%	5%
<u>Sex</u>				
Male	59	25	9	4
Female	77	10	5	6
<u>Race, ethnicity</u>				
White	67	19	7	4
Black	82	11	4	2
Hispanic	76	14	5	3
<u>Age</u>				
18 to 24 years	74	17	4	3
25 to 29 years	60	21	16	2
30 to 39 years	71	18	4	7
40 to 49 years	66	19	6	6
50 to 64 years	74	16	5	4
65 years and older	63	16	13	5
<u>Education</u>				
College post graduate	69	19	8	3
College graduate	68	16	9	4
Some college	65	19	11	3
High school graduate or less	70	18	4	6
<u>Income</u>				
\$75,000 and over	65	21	9	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	69	21	6	4
\$35,000 to \$49,999	68	19	8	2
\$25,000 to \$34,999	73	18	5	2
\$15,000 to \$24,999	73	16	6	4
Under \$15,000	78	8	4	7
<u>Region</u>				
East	75	13	9	3
Midwest	69	19	5	4
South	67	18	6	6
West	64	19	10	4
<u>Politics</u>				
Republican	55	27	11	4
Democrat	80	11	3	4
Independent	70	14	10	4

Note: See Note, table 2.44. The "refused" category has been omitted; therefore, percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Response volunteered.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by Harris Interactive, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.81

**Attitudes toward a law prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or possession of semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles**

United States, 1995, 1996, and 2000

Question: "Now, I am going to read several propositions that would prohibit and make illegal certain activities. First, would you vote. . . For or against a law which would make it illegal to manufacture, sell, or possess semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?"

	For	Against	No opinion
1995 <sup>a</sup>	68%	29%	3%
1996	57	42	1
2000	59	39	2

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2000 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,004 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted Oct. 25-28, 2000. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>For the 1995 survey, the question was: "Please tell me whether you would favor or oppose the following proposal which some people have made to reduce crime: a ban on the manufacture, sale and possession of certain semi-automatic guns known as assault rifles?"

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/surveys/2000/topline001025/topline001025.asp> [Mar. 27, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.82

**Attitudes toward a law requiring a police permit prior to gun purchase**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1975-2000

Question: "Would you favor or oppose a law which would require a person to obtain a police permit before he or she could buy a gun?"

	1975		1976		1977		1980		1982		1984		1985		1987	
	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
National	74%	24%	72%	27%	72%	26%	69%	29%	72%	26%	70%	27%	72%	26%	70%	28%
<b>Sex</b>																
Male	66	32	64	35	64	35	63	36	68	31	62	37	65	34	62	36
Female	80	17	78	20	78	19	74	23	75	23	76	20	78	20	76	22
<b>Race</b>																
White	73	25	71	27	70	28	68	30	71	27	69	29	72	27	69	29
Black/other	81	15	74	24	81	17	81	15	78	19	79	18	76	22	74	23
<b>Age</b>																
18 to 20 years	74	26	78	22	69	31	71	29	77	23	71	24	71	29	69	29
21 to 29 years	79	19	71	27	72	26	73	27	76	24	73	25	74	25	76	23
30 to 49 years	70	27	73	25	70	29	70	29	72	26	70	29	71	28	68	30
50 years and older	73	24	70	29	74	24	67	29	69	29	70	26	72	26	69	29
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																
College	76	22	71	27	74	25	70	29	76	23	74	25	75	24	74	25
High school graduate	74	24	72	27	70	28	69	29	71	27	68	30	71	28	67	31
Less than high school graduate	68	26	71	28	72	25	70	27	64	30	72	23	69	26	70	27
<b>Income</b>																
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																
Professional/business	73	24	74	25	76	23	70	28	75	23	71	27	75	24	74	24
Clerical/support	81	18	78	20	75	22	77	21	77	23	76	23	79	21	77	22
Manual/service	70	27	68	30	68	30	67	32	69	29	68	29	68	31	64	33
Farming/agriculture	60	33	56	44	66	31	53	47	36	60	48	48	43	57	48	50
<b>Region</b>																
Northeast	85	12	86	13	85	14	86	13	85	13	80	18	82	17	83	15
Midwest	76	22	72	27	67	31	71	27	73	24	70	25	73	25	68	31
South	66	30	63	35	69	28	64	34	62	36	66	31	67	32	66	31
West	70	29	68	30	68	31	60	38	69	30	67	32	71	29	67	31
<b>Religion</b>																
Protestant	70	27	67	31	67	30	64	34	68	30	66	31	68	30	67	31
Catholic	83	15	82	18	80	20	83	16	81	17	79	20	79	20	74	24
Jewish	96	4	89	11	89	9	88	12	89	5	93	7	94	6	85	10
None	71	28	68	28	73	26	71	28	72	28	78	22	74	26	77	20
<b>Politics</b>																
Republican	74	23	71	27	71	26	64	35	66	33	66	32	70	28	71	27
Democrat	77	20	74	25	73	26	74	25	75	24	75	23	74	25	70	29
Independent	70	28	69	29	71	28	68	29	72	26	70	28	72	27	70	28

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose	Favor	Oppose
74%	24%	78%	21%	79%	20%	81%	18%	81%	17%	78%	20%	80%	18%	82%	16%	80%	18%
66	33	69	30	72	27	74	25	73	26	70	29	73	25	76	22	71	27
79	17	85	13	84	14	86	12	87	11	84	14	86	12	86	12	86	11
74	24	77	21	77	21	81	18	80	18	77	22	80	19	80	18	78	20
75	23	81	18	86	12	84	15	84	15	84	14	84	13	88	10	86	11
73	24	66	34	91	9	70	30	83	17	85	15	69	29	82	16	79	21
73	26	81	17	83	15	82	18	83	17	78	20	78	21	82	16	81	16
72	26	74	25	76	23	82	17	82	17	77	22	83	15	82	16	80	17
75	20	81	17	78	19	80	17	80	18	79	19	80	19	81	16	79	18
76	22	80	19	81	18	85	14	84	15	79	19	83	16	84	14	79	19
74	24	75	23	77	20	79	20	79	19	76	22	79	19	79	19	80	18
66	27	82	17	73	22	70	24	76	20	78	18	76	20	80	17	82	16
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	84	15	79	20	82	16	83	15	77	22
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	83	16	74	25	82	17	81	18	79	19
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	84	15	80	19	81	18	83	15	79	18
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	79	20	80	18	78	19	84	14	83	14
77	21	82	17	78	20	89	11	84	15	79	20	82	17	83	14	79	19
78	19	80	16	84	15	84	15	89	10	85	14	83	16	84	14	86	12
71	26	72	26	77	22	75	23	75	23	74	24	80	18	79	19	78	19
24	65	73	27	56	39	72	28	72	24	56	38	53	43	80	20	61	36
84	13	90	10	85	15	84	15	90	9	85	15	84	13	88	10	85	13
76	22	80	19	78	20	81	17	82	16	78	21	84	14	79	18	78	20
69	28	72	26	77	20	78	21	75	22	77	21	78	20	79	18	82	16
68	28	74	24	75	24	85	15	82	17	74	25	77	21	82	17	73	23
72	26	75	23	76	22	78	20	79	19	75	23	81	17	80	18	79	18
77	20	84	16	84	14	84	15	84	14	84	15	83	15	85	12	82	15
100	0	100	0	100	0	100	0	96	4	94	6	89	11	88	9	85	15
73	25	70	26	76	23	87	13	80	20	76	22	72	26	80	17	77	20
68	29	76	22	78	21	81	18	76	22	71	28	77	22	75	23	71	27
79	19	84	15	83	15	82	16	86	13	85	14	86	12	86	13	86	12
73	24	71	26	76	23	80	19	81	17	77	21	79	19	83	14	80	16

Table 2.83

**Attitudes toward legalization of the use of marijuana**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1975-2000

Question: "Do you think the use of marijuana should be made legal or not?"

	1975		1976		1978		1980		1983		1984		1986		1987	
	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not
National	20%	75%	28%	69%	30%	67%	25%	72%	20%	76%	23%	73%	18%	80%	16%	81%
<b>Sex</b>																
Male	25	69	32	64	34	63	30	67	25	71	28	68	23	75	19	78
Female	16	80	24	73	26	71	21	76	16	80	19	77	14	84	14	83
<b>Race</b>																
White	20	75	27	70	29	68	25	72	19	77	23	73	18	81	17	80
Black/other	22	71	33	60	38	59	27	71	28	69	22	75	19	77	12	84
<b>Age</b>																
18 to 20 years	34	56	57	39	51	48	45	52	33	67	36	62	16	82	21	74
21 to 29 years	40	54	49	48	49	49	42	56	29	68	34	62	27	71	25	70
30 to 49 years	18	79	25	72	29	69	27	71	21	76	27	68	20	79	19	79
50 years and older	9	86	16	81	16	80	13	84	13	83	9	87	12	87	8	90
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>																
College	35	59	40	56	42	55	35	61	23	74	29	66	22	75	21	75
High school graduate	16	79	26	70	27	70	23	75	21	76	21	75	17	82	13	84
Less than high school graduate	5	89	11	86	13	84	3	88	9	87	7	91	8	91	10	88
<b>Income</b>																
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>																
Professional/business	29	65	36	60	37	60	30	66	22	75	27	68	20	79	20	77
Clerical/support	20	76	26	72	27	71	23	75	18	79	22	72	16	82	11	83
Manual/service	17	79	25	71	28	69	23	74	22	75	20	77	19	79	16	81
Farming/agriculture	3	93	8	92	16	80	12	79	8	82	3	94	9	91	2	95
<b>Region</b>																
Northeast	26	70	32	64	33	62	27	70	20	76	24	74	20	80	18	78
Midwest	20	75	25	72	26	72	20	77	18	79	23	72	16	82	14	83
South	12	84	22	74	27	72	20	78	17	80	20	76	14	84	13	85
West	32	63	37	61	38	59	38	57	30	66	26	70	25	73	23	72
<b>Religion</b>																
Protestant	15	81	22	74	24	74	20	77	17	80	20	76	15	83	13	85
Catholic	21	73	32	64	31	64	26	71	17	78	20	76	18	80	16	81
Jewish	48	48	37	63	62	38	28	62	33	54	48	48	40	60	40	55
None	53	43	54	39	64	33	60	36	54	44	44	50	37	60	42	51
<b>Politics</b>																
Republican	12	86	20	78	19	80	18	80	15	82	17	80	13	86	13	84
Democrat	19	77	26	71	29	67	24	73	20	77	21	75	18	80	15	82
Independent	26	67	34	62	37	60	30	66	24	72	28	68	21	76	19	76

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1988		1989		1990		1991		1993		1994		1996		1998		2000	
Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not	Should	Should not
17%	79%	16%	81%	16%	81%	18%	78%	22%	73%	23%	72%	26%	69%	28%	66%	32%	63%
21	74	20	76	19	79	23	74	27	68	27	69	30	66	34	60	36	58
14	82	14	84	14	82	14	81	19	76	20	75	22	72	22	71	28	66
17	80	18	80	17	80	18	78	22	73	23	73	26	69	28	65	33	61
18	75	10	85	13	82	16	76	20	75	24	71	22	70	24	70	25	68
16	74	19	75	22	78	21	79	24	69	50	50	38	60	34	64	41	56
24	70	21	76	19	76	25	73	25	70	24	71	30	66	34	59	41	54
19	78	19	78	19	79	22	74	27	67	26	70	28	67	30	63	34	60
12	86	11	86	12	85	10	86	15	81	17	78	19	75	21	73	24	70
20	75	20	77	18	79	21	74	25	70	26	69	27	68	32	62	33	62
16	80	15	82	16	81	16	81	19	76	22	74	24	71	23	70	31	62
12	88	9	88	12	87	8	88	19	80	10	84	22	72	22	72	27	67
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23	72	24	70	25	70	27	68	31	64
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	22	72	21	76	25	71	29	67	36	58
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27	69	20	77	27	68	32	61	34	60
NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	23	73	27	69	29	66	26	68	29	65
16	80	20	77	21	77	19	76	24	71	26	69	26	68	31	64	35	60
14	82	10	88	9	87	16	80	19	75	18	79	23	71	23	72	26	67
20	75	17	80	16	80	17	79	24	71	24	72	26	69	28	65	31	62
6	94	25	75	6	88	15	80	5	90	15	82	26	71	42	45	34	63
19	76	14	80	12	84	18	77	24	70	19	75	26	67	28	65	34	58
18	78	14	84	16	81	13	83	19	77	19	76	23	74	27	66	32	63
12	86	14	83	12	84	15	81	19	77	22	74	24	70	22	72	26	68
23	72	26	72	29	71	30	66	28	64	32	64	31	64	37	58	39	57
13	84	13	86	12	85	16	80	18	78	19	77	19	74	21	73	26	69
16	80	16	80	15	84	15	82	21	75	21	74	29	68	27	66	28	64
52	44	35	65	33	60	36	59	30	60	42	49	37	54	56	44	48	48
38	55	40	49	44	51	40	52	47	45	46	49	42	54	48	44	53	42
14	84	14	85	11	86	16	80	14	84	15	82	20	77	19	77	26	70
18	78	16	81	18	79	16	80	28	68	24	73	24	69	29	65	31	63
20	75	19	76	18	78	21	75	23	69	29	64	30	64	31	62	35	58

Table 2.84

**Attitudes toward treating the possession of small amounts of marijuana as a criminal offense**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you think the possession of small amounts of marijuana should or should not be treated as a criminal offense?"

	Should	Should not	Don't know
National	49%	46%	5%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	43	53	4
Female	55	39	6
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>			
White	49	46	5
Nonwhite	52	44	4
Black	52	43	5
Hispanic	51	48	1
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 29 years	49	47	4
30 to 49 years	49	48	3
50 to 64 years	46	48	6
65 years and older	56	37	7
<b>Education</b>			
College graduate	39	55	6
Some college	49	48	3
High school graduate	54	39	7
Less than high school graduate	53	42	5
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	38	59	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	48	47	5
\$30,000 to \$49,999	48	47	5
\$20,000 to \$29,999	62	36	2
Under \$20,000	55	39	6
<b>Community</b>			
Large city	46	49	5
Suburb	44	52	4
Small city/town	48	46	6
Rural area	62	33	5
<b>Region</b>			
East	53	43	4
Midwest	51	42	7
South	52	43	5
West	40	56	4
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	55	40	5
Democrat	48	48	4
Independent	44	51	5

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 21, 22. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.85

**Attitudes toward doctors prescribing marijuana for medical purposes**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Regardless of what you think about the personal non-medical use of marijuana, do you think doctors should or should not be allowed to prescribe marijuana for medical purposes to treat their patients?"

	Should	Should not	Don't know
National	73%	21%	6%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	75	19	6
Female	70	24	6
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>			
White	74	20	6
Nonwhite	69	28	3
Black	66	30	4
Hispanic	67	32	1
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 29 years	77	20	3
30 to 49 years	76	21	3
50 to 64 years	73	21	6
65 years and older	61	25	14
<b>Education</b>			
College graduate	79	16	5
Some college	75	21	4
High school graduate	71	23	6
Less than high school graduate	64	28	8
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	83	13	4
\$50,000 to \$74,999	78	18	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	73	23	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	69	24	7
Under \$20,000	66	28	6
<b>Community</b>			
Large city	74	21	5
Suburb	77	16	7
Small city/town	73	22	5
Rural area	66	29	5
<b>Region</b>			
East	73	22	5
Midwest	72	23	5
South	72	22	6
West	75	18	7
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	67	26	7
Democrat	75	20	5
Independent	79	17	4

Note: See Note, table 2.3.

Source: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, **NEWSRelease** (Washington, DC: The Pew Research Center for The People & The Press, Mar. 21, 2001), pp. 21, 22. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.86

**High school seniors reporting that they worry about selected social problems**

United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Of all the problems facing the nation today, how often do you worry about each of the following?"

(Percent responding "sometimes" or "often")

	Class of 1988 (N=3,326)	Class of 1989 (N=2,849)	Class of 1990 (N=2,595)	Class of 1991 (N=2,595)	Class of 1992 (N=2,736)	Class of 1993 (N=2,807)	Class of 1994 (N=2,664)	Class of 1995 (N=2,646)	Class of 1996 (N=2,502)	Class of 1997 (N=2,651)	Class of 1998 (N=2,621)	Class of 1999 (N=2,348)	Class of 2000 (N=2,204)
Crime and violence	83.9%	86.3%	88.8%	88.1%	91.6%	90.8%	92.7%	90.2%	90.1%	86.5%	84.4%	81.8%	83.5%
Drug abuse	78.6	79.5	82.6	79.5	77.8	75.5	76.7	72.6	71.0	71.1	65.3	62.7	60.9
Hunger and poverty	64.2	64.1	65.9	66.4	68.1	71.1	65.7	62.3	62.6	61.1	55.5	54.5	54.4
Chance of nuclear war	57.3	52.4	45.1	41.5	33.4	28.8	27.9	20.0	21.6	20.4	29.0	32.1	23.7
Economic problems	56.2	57.6	56.8	63.9	70.6	71.8	62.6	55.7	57.9	51.5	47.6	44.8	45.2
Pollution	45.5	55.9	67.2	72.1	71.9	72.8	66.5	63.6	62.9	61.6	57.1	49.8	53.3
Race relations	53.3	53.6	57.1	59.4	68.7	75.4	71.6	68.9	70.7	64.7	56.0	55.6	51.2
Energy shortages	25.1	27.9	32.6	38.2	35.2	29.8	23.8	17.9	19.2	19.4	18.3	20.8	22.0
Using open land for housing or industry	29.4	30.8	33.9	33.8	34.7	32.9	32.7	28.9	32.6	32.7	30.8	27.5	32.6
Population growth	27.5	29.6	33.0	30.6	35.2	38.9	35.4	34.9	37.4	38.2	34.8	31.7	36.3
Urban decay	19.9	19.8	20.4	21.7	25.8	25.3	25.6	23.0	25.1	22.1	18.8	17.2	20.5

Note: These data are from a series of nationwide surveys of high school seniors conducted by the Monitoring the Future Project at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research from 1975 through 2000. The survey design is a multistage random sample of high school seniors in public and private schools throughout the continental United States. All percentages reported are based on weighted cases; the Ns that are shown in the tables refer to the number of weighted cases.

Response categories were "never," "seldom," "sometimes," and "often." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, pp. 180, 181; *1991*, pp. 188, 189; *1993*, pp. 190, 191; *1995*, pp. 191, 192 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1988*, pp. 180, 181; *1990*, pp. 186, 187; *1992*, pp. 189, 190; *1994*, pp. 189, 190 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.87

**High school seniors reporting that they worry about crime and violence**

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Of all the problems facing the nation today, how often do you worry about . . . crime and violence?"

(Percent responding "sometimes" or "often")

	Class of 1988 (N=3,326)	Class of 1989 (N=2,849)	Class of 1990 (N=2,595)	Class of 1991 (N=2,595)	Class of 1992 (N=2,736)	Class of 1993 (N=2,807)	Class of 1994 (N=2,664)	Class of 1995 (N=2,646)	Class of 1996 (N=2,502)	Class of 1997 (N=2,651)	Class of 1998 (N=2,621)	Class of 1999 (N=2,348)	Class of 2000 (N=2,204)
Total	83.9%	86.3%	88.8%	88.1%	91.6%	90.8%	92.7%	90.2%	90.1%	86.5%	84.4%	81.8%	83.5%
<b>Sex</b>													
Male	76.0	80.9	84.8	82.6	87.6	85.7	88.4	85.8	84.8	79.4	76.5	74.4	76.0
Female	91.8	92.2	93.4	93.6	95.7	95.6	96.5	95.1	95.4	93.7	91.7	89.5	90.2
<b>Race</b>													
White	82.8	84.6	88.1	86.6	90.5	89.4	92.9	90.0	89.5	84.5	83.5	80.8	82.6
Black	88.2	91.8	92.7	94.5	96.9	95.1	90.7	93.0	92.9	90.4	85.7	84.8	91.1
<b>Region</b>													
Northeast	81.9	83.0	87.7	86.0	92.0	90.6	91.0	91.7	89.4	83.2	83.1	85.4	82.2
North Central	81.7	83.0	87.0	88.8	87.6	90.2	93.2	86.7	87.4	85.1	80.7	80.0	84.6
South	86.1	89.4	90.4	88.4	93.8	91.2	93.3	91.3	91.1	88.7	87.0	81.1	85.8
West	85.4	88.2	89.4	89.0	93.0	91.4	92.4	92.2	93.4	88.2	85.4	82.0	79.3
<b>College plans</b>													
Yes	85.4	88.0	89.8	89.9	93.1	92.4	94.1	92.6	91.6	88.4	85.3	84.5	85.0
No	80.8	82.8	88.0	83.9	87.7	85.8	89.4	84.0	86.2	80.7	82.2	72.3	77.9
<b>Lifetime illicit drug use</b>													
None	85.8	88.8	90.6	90.7	92.9	91.9	94.1	91.8	90.5	89.1	86.8	84.3	85.4
Marijuana only	83.9	86.6	87.1	85.4	89.6	91.1	91.5	90.9	91.9	85.7	82.3	82.8	85.8
Few pills	83.7	85.2	87.6	86.6	89.4	90.7	95.6	92.6	91.0	88.3	84.6	84.3	79.1
More pills	81.2	81.7	85.7	84.8	90.6	87.4	89.5	84.1	87.4	81.0	83.3	75.6	79.9

Note: See Note, table 2.86. Data are given for those who identify themselves as white or Caucasian and those who identify themselves as black or African-American because these are the two largest racial/ethnic subgroups in the population. Data are not given for the other ethnic categories because each of these groups comprises a small portion of the sample in any given year (Source, **1992**, p. 9). "College plans" distinguishes those seniors who expect to graduate from a 4-year college from those who expect to receive some college training or none. The four drug use categories are based on an index of seriousness of involvement. The "pills" category indicates use of any of a number of drugs including some that usually are not taken in pill form. Respondents indicating the use of one or more of a number of illicit drugs but who had not used any one class of them on three or more occasions and did not use heroin at all fall into the "few pills" category. Respondents indicating such use on three or more occasions and who did not use heroin at all fall into the "more pills" category. Respondents reporting heroin use were included in a separate category that is not presented here due to the small number of respondents indicating such use. (Source, **1995**, pp. 8, 9, 14.)

Response categories were "never," "seldom," "sometimes," and "often." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see [Appendix 5](#).

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 180; **1991**, p. 188; **1993**, p. 190; **1995**, p. 191 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1988*, p. 180; **1990**, p. 186; **1992**, p. 189; **1994**, p. 189 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.



Table 2.88

**High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of selected institutions**

United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. ... How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by. ...?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1988 (N=3,378)	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)
Large corporations	47.4%	45.1%	38.4%	36.3%	31.8%	31.5%	34.6%	37.9%	36.3%	35.3%	43.0%	42.1%	43.0%
Major labor unions	32.7	35.5	31.7	31.3	28.9	27.2	29.2	28.0	30.8	29.2	32.8	34.5	32.0
The Nation's colleges and universities	76.8	73.7	73.8	70.2	67.2	61.1	67.7	66.6	70.5	65.7	70.1	72.5	71.0
The Nation's public schools	44.2	37.9	36.1	33.6	32.5	29.0	27.2	31.8	30.6	30.0	32.2	34.1	34.7
Churches and religious organizations	47.4	47.3	47.0	49.2	50.3	46.9	50.3	50.2	49.0	48.3	52.6	52.4	50.1
The national news media (TV, magazines, news services)	58.3	55.3	54.7	51.1	47.9	40.5	37.9	33.1	34.5	34.8	36.1	39.8	37.6
The President and his administration	35.3	36.4	41.8	56.8	23.8	24.9	22.1	19.7	24.0	26.8	34.1	33.3	53.6
Congress--that is, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives	33.4	31.6	32.9	38.3	15.9	16.6	18.8	20.6	18.1	21.7	28.7	29.9	31.4
The U.S. Supreme Court	42.1	42.7	40.9	44.1	35.7	31.0	31.0	29.8	30.4	30.5	36.6	38.9	38.2
All the courts and the justice system in general	31.6	31.7	27.8	31.2	23.4	21.1	19.3	20.6	21.2	22.4	25.7	29.4	28.9
The police and other law enforcement agencies	37.4	33.6	34.3	28.0	26.9	27.1	29.3	28.7	27.6	28.7	33.0	33.7	33.6
The U.S. military	60.9	60.1	58.8	80.6	62.2	57.0	54.3	54.8	55.6	52.9	56.7	59.4	55.5

Note: See Note, table 2.86. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, pp. 132-134; *1991*, pp. 136-138; *1993*, pp. 138-140; *1995*, pp. 139-141 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1988*, pp. 132-134; *1990*, pp. 135-137; *1992*, pp. 137-139; *1994*, pp. 137-139 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.89

**High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the police and other law enforcement agencies**

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. ... How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by ... the police and other law enforcement agencies?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1988 (N=3,378)	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)
Total	37.4%	33.6%	34.3%	28.0%	26.9%	27.1%	29.3%	28.7%	27.6%	28.7%	33.0%	33.7%	33.6%
<u>Sex</u>													
Male	37.3	33.5	33.4	29.3	27.4	30.1	30.2	29.1	28.6	30.3	33.9	36.3	35.7
Female	37.5	34.2	35.0	27.2	26.8	24.3	28.4	28.1	26.5	27.7	32.1	31.5	32.7
<u>Race</u>													
White	40.5	35.5	35.4	31.5	30.0	31.1	32.2	31.5	30.7	32.1	35.7	35.2	38.0
Black	22.6	28.3	22.4	11.0	12.4	9.2	16.9	16.8	14.6	16.3	22.5	25.4	16.6
<u>Region</u>													
Northeast	34.0	33.4	28.3	26.3	26.6	28.0	29.5	25.5	30.7	32.7	33.4	29.9	36.1
North Central	38.5	33.8	35.2	35.7	27.7	28.5	29.9	29.9	24.5	25.4	32.8	34.3	33.2
South	38.5	35.2	36.0	22.1	24.5	25.4	29.3	27.3	26.5	28.9	32.4	34.6	31.7
West	37.3	30.7	36.3	30.0	30.7	27.8	28.4	32.9	31.1	28.6	34.2	35.0	35.3
<u>College plans</u>													
Yes	38.7	34.2	34.0	28.5	25.8	26.9	29.5	28.9	27.8	29.3	33.0	34.5	34.1
No	35.4	34.0	33.8	28.7	31.0	27.3	29.7	29.4	28.1	26.6	32.2	32.4	33.5
<u>Lifetime illicit drug use</u>													
None	39.7	35.1	37.7	31.1	29.5	29.7	32.9	31.7	29.4	33.0	39.3	38.1	39.5
Marijuana only	35.1	33.1	33.6	27.0	23.5	24.0	25.8	26.3	25.5	27.7	30.2	33.4	29.6
Few pills	35.9	28.0	31.5	29.4	23.3	25.2	26.7	24.2	36.3	26.1	29.1	34.2	32.3
More pills	35.7	32.8	26.6	17.5	21.3	22.2	22.9	25.8	20.0	21.6	25.9	24.9	28.8

Note: See Notes, tables 2.86 and 2.87. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 134; *1991*, p. 138; *1993*, p. 140; *1995*, p. 141 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1988*, p. 134; *1990*, p. 137; *1992*, p. 139; *1994*, p. 139 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.90

**High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the U.S. Supreme Court**

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. . . . How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by. . . the U.S. Supreme Court?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1988 (N=3,378)	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)
Total	42.1%	42.7%	40.9%	44.1%	35.7%	31.0%	31.0%	29.8%	30.4%	30.5%	36.6%	38.9%	38.2%
<u>Sex</u>													
Male	44.6	45.8	44.6	46.2	39.7	34.5	32.6	35.0	35.6	33.3	39.7	43.9	41.9
Female	40.5	39.5	37.2	41.7	32.1	27.8	29.6	24.8	25.7	28.3	33.5	34.9	36.0
<u>Race</u>													
White	45.0	43.7	42.0	47.1	38.4	33.3	32.9	32.5	31.3	33.5	38.1	39.9	40.1
Black	32.0	37.0	36.9	29.9	27.8	23.8	22.9	21.9	27.5	22.3	31.2	32.8	31.0
<u>Region</u>													
Northeast	39.4	38.9	38.4	40.1	31.9	31.5	31.5	26.6	32.7	30.2	31.4	40.4	36.7
North Central	42.1	41.1	42.1	47.9	38.3	33.4	32.2	32.8	27.4	27.8	36.5	42.9	40.1
South	46.5	46.7	41.6	43.9	35.9	28.9	30.3	30.4	34.0	34.0	38.3	35.6	37.2
West	37.4	40.9	40.4	42.8	34.8	31.0	30.2	27.5	25.0	28.7	39.0	38.3	39.2
<u>College plans</u>													
Yes	45.8	44.5	42.4	47.5	37.8	34.0	33.6	30.9	31.6	32.1	38.1	40.2	40.9
No	35.9	39.7	36.7	36.3	31.6	23.3	24.7	27.1	25.9	26.7	31.7	35.7	30.7
<u>Lifetime illicit drug use</u>													
None	43.5	44.2	44.1	46.8	39.3	33.4	32.6	30.7	30.5	31.7	38.8	40.1	39.9
Marijuana only	41.5	41.6	38.6	41.6	31.3	29.6	30.0	29.6	33.1	30.7	33.6	39.4	38.0
Few pills	38.1	35.5	36.0	41.9	30.7	27.6	29.1	34.5	32.5	32.3	34.2	45.3	38.9
More pills	41.8	45.7	36.7	37.2	27.7	27.7	29.3	24.5	26.4	28.6	38.8	31.7	35.0

Note: See Notes, tables 2.86 and 2.87. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 133; *1991*, p. 137; *1993*, p. 139; *1995*, p. 140 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1988*, p. 133; *1990*, p. 136; *1992*, p. 138; *1994*, p. 138 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.91

**High school seniors reporting positive attitudes toward the performance of the courts and the justice system in general**

By sex, race, region, college plans, and illicit drug use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Now we'd like you to make some ratings of how good or bad a job you feel each of the following organizations is doing for the country as a whole. ... How good or bad a job is being done for the country as a whole by ... all the courts and the justice system in general?"

(Percent responding "good" or "very good")

	Class of 1988 (N=3,378)	Class of 1989 (N=2,852)	Class of 1990 (N=2,600)	Class of 1991 (N=2,582)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,773)	Class of 1994 (N=2,642)	Class of 1995 (N=2,658)	Class of 1996 (N=2,455)	Class of 1997 (N=2,648)	Class of 1998 (N=2,608)	Class of 1999 (N=2,357)	Class of 2000 (N=2,216)
Total	31.6%	31.7%	27.8%	31.2%	23.4%	21.1%	19.3%	20.6%	21.2%	22.4%	25.7%	29.4%	28.9%
<b>Sex</b>													
Male	31.7	33.2	30.9	33.8	25.3	24.0	20.5	22.3	25.7	23.9	27.0	32.1	32.4
Female	32.1	30.1	24.9	28.8	21.5	18.7	18.2	18.6	16.8	20.9	24.4	27.2	26.3
<b>Race</b>													
White	34.0	32.2	27.3	32.5	24.6	22.4	20.5	21.4	21.5	23.5	26.1	29.7	29.5
Black	21.6	26.8	26.4	23.5	18.6	13.6	12.0	17.3	20.8	17.6	23.5	25.5	22.9
<b>Region</b>													
Northeast	31.2	27.2	22.8	31.0	18.1	19.7	18.5	17.6	20.4	23.5	23.3	30.5	29.3
North Central	31.7	33.7	27.2	34.4	24.5	22.6	19.0	23.2	19.5	21.5	26.3	32.3	26.7
South	34.1	33.4	31.1	28.0	24.5	20.8	19.5	20.0	25.2	23.5	26.5	27.3	29.4
West	27.4	29.9	28.8	32.7	24.8	20.6	20.4	20.6	16.3	20.0	26.1	28.0	30.3
<b>College plans</b>													
Yes	32.7	32.3	27.6	32.7	24.0	21.8	20.6	20.4	20.6	22.8	26.1	30.3	30.4
No	30.2	31.2	27.8	27.6	22.8	17.6	16.4	21.0	23.2	21.6	22.9	28.8	25.2
<b>Lifetime illicit drug use</b>													
None	32.7	31.6	29.9	34.3	25.8	23.0	21.0	20.9	19.4	24.1	28.5	31.0	31.6
Marijuana only	31.5	33.2	25.7	29.3	22.0	19.6	18.3	19.5	23.4	21.8	25.0	32.4	28.2
Few pills	30.8	28.2	25.4	27.0	15.4	18.5	16.8	25.2	29.1	19.7	21.0	33.7	32.1
More pills	29.2	33.6	24.2	25.2	19.6	16.9	17.9	18.4	19.7	20.7	25.8	20.4	24.7

Note: See Notes, tables 2.86 and 2.87. Response categories were "very poor," "poor," "fair," "good," "very good," and "no opinion." Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

 Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1989*, p. 133; *1991*, p. 137; *1993*, p. 139; *1995*, p. 140 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); Jerald G. Bachman, Lloyd D. Johnston, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1988*, p. 133; *1990*, p. 136; *1992*, p. 138; *1994*, p. 138 (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan); and data provided by the Monitoring the Future Project, Survey Research Center, Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, Principal Investigators. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.92

**Students' perceptions of the harmfulness of alcohol and drug use**By grade level of respondent, 1999-2000<sup>a</sup>

Question: "Do you feel that using. . . is harmful to your health?"

	No harm	Some harm	Harmful	Very harmful
Beer	9.5%	33.2%	28.6%	28.7%
Grades 6 to 8	8.1	29.3	29.7	32.8
Grades 9 to 12	10.9	37.3	27.5	24.3
12th grade	10.8	39.4	26.5	23.2
Wine coolers	21.1	38.9	20.8	19.2
Grades 6 to 8	18.8	36.4	22.8	22.0
Grades 9 to 12	23.5	41.6	18.6	16.3
12th grade	22.2	43.1	18.5	16.2
Liquor	6.7	22.5	32.6	38.2
Grades 6 to 8	5.4	18.2	33.1	43.4
Grades 9 to 12	8.1	27.2	32.1	32.6
12th grade	8.0	30.4	31.7	29.9
Marijuana	8.0	10.9	17.0	64.1
Grades 6 to 8	5.3	5.8	12.8	76.1
Grades 9 to 12	10.9	16.4	21.5	51.2
12th grade	11.8	20.6	23.9	43.7
Cocaine	2.7	1.9	8.8	86.6
Grades 6 to 8	2.7	1.6	7.9	87.8
Grades 9 to 12	2.6	2.3	9.7	85.4
12th grade	2.5	2.3	9.4	85.8
Inhalants	4.1	9.5	21.0	65.3
Grades 6 to 8	4.7	10.9	22.7	61.8
Grades 9 to 12	3.5	8.1	19.3	69.1
12th grade	2.9	5.9	17.6	73.6
Hallucinogens	3.4	4.4	14.9	77.3
Grades 6 to 8	3.4	4.3	16.2	76.0
Grades 9 to 12	3.4	4.4	13.6	78.6
12th grade	3.4	4.5	12.3	79.8
Heroin	2.7	2.2	9.6	85.5
Grades 6 to 8	2.9	2.5	10.8	83.8
Grades 9 to 12	2.5	1.8	8.3	87.3
12th grade	2.4	1.6	7.3	88.7
Steroids	3.7	10.4	26.4	59.5
Grades 6 to 8	4.2	11.2	26.3	58.3
Grades 9 to 12	3.3	9.5	26.4	60.8
12th grade	2.8	7.8	24.5	65.0

Note: These data are from a survey of 6th through 12th grade students conducted between September 1999 and June 2000 by PRIDE Surveys. Participating schools are sent the PRIDE questionnaire with explicit instructions for administering the anonymous, self-report survey. Schools that administer the PRIDE questionnaire do so voluntarily or in compliance with a school district or State request. For the 1999-2000 academic year, survey results are based on students from 24 States. The following States participated in the 1999-2000 PRIDE survey: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wisconsin. To prevent any one State from having a disproportionate influence on the summary results, random samples of students were drawn from those States where disproportionately large numbers of students were surveyed. Therefore, no State comprises more than 10% of the sample. The results presented are based on a sample consisting of 114,318 students drawn from the total number of students who completed the PRIDE questionnaire.

<sup>a</sup>Percents may not add to 100 because of rounding.

Source: PRIDE Surveys, "1999-2000 National Summary, Grades 6 through 12," Bowling Green, KY: PRIDE Surveys, 2000. (Mimeographed.) P. 73; p. 74, Tables 6.36 and 6.37; p. 75, Tables 6.40 and 6.41; p. 76. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.93

**High school seniors' perceptions of the harmfulness of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking**

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they...?"

(Percent responding "great risk"<sup>a</sup>)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Class of 1988 (N=3,276)	Class of 1989 (N=2,796)	Class of 1990 (N=2,553)	Class of 1991 (N=2,549)	Class of 1992 (N=2,684)	Class of 1993 (N=2,759)	Class of 1994 (N=2,591)	Class of 1995 (N=2,603)	Class of 1996 (N=2,449)	Class of 1997 (N=2,579)	Class of 1998 (N=2,564)	Class of 1999 (N=2,306)	Class of 2000 (N=2,130)
Try marijuana once or twice	19.0%	23.6%	23.1%	27.1%	24.5%	21.9%	19.5%	16.3%	15.6%	14.9%	16.7%	15.7%	13.7%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	31.7	36.5	36.9	40.6	39.6	35.6	30.1	25.6	25.9	24.7	24.4	23.9	23.4
Smoke marijuana regularly	77.0	77.5	77.8	78.6	76.5	72.5	65.0	60.8	59.9	58.1	58.5	57.4	58.3
Try LSD once or twice	45.7	46.0	44.7	46.6	42.3	39.5	38.8	36.4	36.2	34.7	37.4	34.9	34.3
Take LSD regularly	84.2	84.3	84.5	84.3	81.8	79.4	79.1	78.1	77.8	76.6	76.5	76.1	75.9
Try PCP once or twice	58.8	56.6	55.2	51.7	54.8	50.8	51.5	49.1	51.0	48.8	46.8	44.8	45.0
Try MDMA (ecstasy) once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	33.8	34.5	35.0	37.9
Try cocaine once or twice	51.2	54.9	59.4	59.4	56.8	57.6	57.2	53.7	54.2	53.6	54.6	52.1	51.1
Take cocaine occasionally	69.2	71.8	73.9	75.5	75.1	73.3	73.7	70.8	72.1	72.4	70.1	70.1	69.5
Take cocaine regularly	89.2	90.2	91.1	90.4	90.2	90.1	89.3	87.9	88.3	87.1	86.3	85.8	86.2
Try crack once or twice	62.1	62.9	64.3	60.6	62.4	57.6	58.4	54.6	56.0	54.0	52.2	48.2	48.4
Take crack occasionally	73.2	75.3	80.4	76.5	76.3	73.9	73.8	72.8	71.4	70.3	68.7	67.3	65.8
Take crack regularly	84.8	85.6	91.6	90.1	89.3	87.5	89.6	88.6	88.0	86.2	85.3	85.4	85.3
Try cocaine powder once or twice	51.7	53.8	53.9	53.6	57.1	53.2	55.4	52.0	53.2	51.4	48.5	46.1	47.0
Take cocaine powder occasionally	61.9	65.8	71.1	69.8	70.8	68.6	70.6	69.1	68.8	67.7	65.4	64.2	64.7
Take cocaine powder regularly	82.9	83.9	90.2	88.9	88.4	87.0	88.6	87.8	86.8	86.0	84.1	84.6	85.5
Try heroin once or twice	54.0	53.8	55.4	55.2	50.9	50.7	52.8	50.9	52.5	56.7	57.8	56.0	54.2
Take heroin occasionally	73.8	75.5	76.6	74.9	74.2	72.0	72.1	71.0	74.8	76.3	76.9	77.3	74.6
Take heroin regularly	88.8	89.5	90.2	89.6	89.2	88.3	88.0	87.2	89.5	88.9	89.1	89.9	89.2
Try amphetamines once or twice	29.6	32.8	32.2	36.3	32.6	31.3	31.4	28.8	30.8	31.0	35.3	32.2	32.6
Take amphetamines regularly	69.8	71.2	71.2	74.1	72.4	69.9	67.0	65.9	66.8	66.0	67.7	66.4	66.3
Try crystal methamphetamine (ice) once or twice	NA	NA	NA	61.6	61.9	57.5	58.3	54.4	55.3	54.4	52.7	51.2	51.3
Try barbiturates once or twice	29.7	32.2	32.4	35.1	32.2	29.2	29.9	26.3	29.1	26.9	29.0	26.1	25.0
Take barbiturates regularly	69.6	70.5	70.2	70.5	70.2	66.1	63.3	61.6	60.4	56.8	56.3	54.1	52.3
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	6.0	6.0	8.3	9.1	8.6	8.2	7.6	5.9	7.3	6.7	8.0	8.3	6.4
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	27.3	28.5	31.3	32.7	30.6	28.2	27.0	24.8	25.1	24.8	24.3	21.8	21.7
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	68.5	69.8	70.9	69.5	70.5	67.8	66.2	62.8	65.6	63.0	62.1	61.1	59.9
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	42.6	44.0	47.1	48.6	49.0	48.3	46.5	45.2	49.5	43.0	42.8	43.1	42.7
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	68.0	67.2	68.2	69.4	69.2	69.5	67.6	65.6	68.2	68.7	70.8	70.8	73.1
Take steroids	NA	63.8	69.9	65.6	70.7	69.1	66.1	66.4	67.6	67.2	68.1	62.1	57.9

Note: These data are from a series of nationwide surveys of high school seniors conducted by the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research for the National Institute on Drug Abuse from 1975 through 2000. The survey design is a multistage random sample of high school seniors in public and private schools. Depending on the survey year, approximately 65% of the schools initially invited to participate agreed to do so. Completed questionnaires were obtained from approximately 83% of all sampled students in participating schools each year. Beginning in 1991, eighth and tenth grade students also were included in the survey. All percentages reported are based on weighted cases; the Ns that are shown in the tables also refer to the number of weighted cases. Alcohol and cigarette use are included in selected tables. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup> Answer alternatives were: (1) no risk, (2) slight risk, (3) moderate risk, (4) great risk, and (5) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.94

**Eighth and tenth graders' perceptions of the harmfulness of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking**

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1991, 1995, and 1998-2000

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they . . . ?"

(Percent responding "great risk"<sup>a</sup>)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Eighth graders					Tenth graders				
	1991 (N=17,400)	1995 (N=17,501)	1998 (N=18,100)	1999 (N=16,700)	2000 (N=16,700)	1991 (N=14,700)	1995 (N=17,006)	1998 (N=15,000)	1999 (N=13,600)	2000 (N=14,300)
Try marijuana once or twice	40.4%	28.9%	28.1%	28.0%	29.0%	30.0%	21.5%	19.6%	19.2%	18.5%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	57.9	45.9	45.0	45.7	47.4	48.6	35.4	32.5	33.5	32.4
Smoke marijuana regularly	83.8	73.0	73.0	73.3	74.8	82.1	67.9	65.8	65.9	64.7
Try inhalants once or twice <sup>b</sup>	35.9	36.4	38.9	40.8	41.2	37.8	41.6	45.8	48.2	46.6
Take inhalants regularly <sup>b</sup>	65.6	64.8	67.2	68.8	69.9	69.8	71.8	73.3	76.3	75.0
Try LSD once or twice <sup>c</sup>	NA	36.7	34.9	34.1	34.0	NA	44.7	43.5	45.0	43.0
Take LSD regularly <sup>c</sup>	NA	64.4	59.6	58.8	57.5	NA	75.5	72.3	73.9	72.0
Try crack once or twice <sup>b</sup>	62.8	50.8	49.3	48.7	48.5	70.4	60.9	58.0	57.8	56.1
Take crack occasionally <sup>b</sup>	82.2	72.1	70.6	70.6	70.1	87.4	81.2	77.5	79.1	76.9
Try cocaine powder once or twice <sup>b</sup>	55.5	44.9	44.0	43.3	43.3	59.1	53.5	50.9	51.6	48.8
Take cocaine powder occasionally <sup>b</sup>	77.0	66.4	65.2	65.4	65.5	82.2	75.6	71.8	73.6	70.9
Try heroin once or twice without using a needle <sup>c</sup>	NA	60.1	62.8	63.0	62.0	NA	70.7	71.7	73.7	71.7
Try heroin occasionally without using a needle <sup>c</sup>	NA	76.8	79.0	78.9	78.6	NA	85.1	84.9	86.5	85.2
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	11.0	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.9	9.0	9.3	10.1	10.5	9.6
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	31.8	30.5	30.3	29.7	30.4	36.1	31.7	31.9	32.9	32.3
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	59.1	54.1	56.0	55.3	55.9	54.7	52.0	52.5	51.9	51.0
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day <sup>d</sup>	51.6	49.8	54.3	54.8	58.8	60.3	57.0	61.9	62.7	65.9

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1992 through 1994, 1996, and 1997 should consult previous editions of SOURCE-BOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup>Answer alternatives were: (1) no risk, (2) slight risk, (3) moderate risk, (4) great risk, and (5) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

<sup>b</sup>Beginning in 1997, data are based on two-thirds of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

<sup>c</sup>Data for 1995 are based on one of two forms; N is one-half of N indicated. Beginning in 1997, data are based on one-third of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

<sup>d</sup>Beginning in 1999, data are based on two-thirds of N indicated due to changes in the questionnaire form.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCE-BOOK staff.

Table 2.95

**Young adults' perceptions of the harmfulness of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking**

By type of drug, frequency of use, and age group, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves (physically or in other ways), if they. . .?"

(Percent responding "great risk"<sup>a</sup>)

	Age groups												
	19 to 22 years old												
Type of drug and frequency of use	1988 (N=551)	1989 (N=565)	1990 (N=552)	1991 (N=533)	1992 (N=527)	1993 (N=480)	1994 (N=490)	1995 (N=500)	1996 (N=469)	1997 (N=465)	1998 (N=431)	1999 (N=447)	2000 (N=424)
Try marijuana once or twice	16.8%	16.9%	17.8%	19.1%	19.7%	19.4%	18.8%	13.3%	16.9%	14.8%	13.4%	12.5%	14.3%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	28.7	29.1	30.1	30.2	29.5	30.3	31.3	25.5	25.6	22.0	22.0	19.8	25.8
Smoke marijuana regularly	72.4	74.9	73.0	75.0	69.3	69.2	65.0	62.1	61.3	60.6	53.4	55.2	58.0
Try LSD once or twice	49.2	49.5	49.3	48.0	45.6	42.4	42.3	40.3	44.4	40.1	38.7	38.1	37.9
Take LSD regularly	85.4	85.5	85.8	86.6	87.0	81.3	81.0	80.5	82.4	83.6	78.6	82.2	81.6
Try cocaine once or twice	51.9	51.5	58.1	58.7	56.1	60.5	63.8	57.7	61.9	55.5	55.4	52.8	56.7
Take cocaine occasionally	67.1	72.6	74.6	72.6	74.9	75.4	78.0	73.4	76.6	76.1	71.2	68.0	72.4
Take cocaine regularly	90.3	89.1	93.9	93.5	92.9	91.7	92.2	91.5	92.2	91.6	88.7	88.5	90.7
Try crack once or twice	67.3	68.5	69.4	66.9	65.4	63.5	70.1	61.9	65.2	62.0	59.3	56.1	52.9
Take crack occasionally	77.3	81.8	82.3	82.7	81.9	83.6	84.3	78.8	83.5	79.1	79.1	75.5	74.9
Take crack regularly	91.1	94.1	94.9	95.6	93.4	96.2	96.0	94.2	94.7	93.3	92.8	92.3	91.1
Try heroin once or twice	58.9	59.6	58.3	59.9	59.8	58.9	60.8	58.9	61.0	63.9	60.7	63.5	63.2
Take heroin occasionally	77.5	79.8	80.8	80.2	81.6	78.8	79.0	77.9	82.1	84.7	80.4	82.5	82.0
Take heroin regularly	89.6	90.8	91.2	91.5	92.2	89.2	91.2	89.9	94.0	93.7	92.4	92.8	94.0
Try amphetamines once or twice	31.7	28.9	35.6	32.8	34.5	33.3	36.3	32.9	36.8	30.1	31.7	33.7	35.0
Take amphetamines regularly	73.9	71.3	74.0	77.1	73.5	73.5	71.6	72.2	75.8	72.3	71.9	72.4	73.4
Try crystal methamphetamine (ice)	NA	NA	57.8	58.6	57.7	57.5	61.4	58.9	61.1	56.4	55.8	50.6	49.2
Try barbiturates once or twice	32.7	30.5	36.4	33.5	33.5	33.4	35.0	30.5	34.1	31.4	27.7	28.5	30.3
Take barbiturates regularly	74.0	71.7	75.5	75.5	73.6	71.1	69.4	66.4	70.7	69.5	65.1	64.7	64.6
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	3.9	5.9	6.1	5.4	5.8	6.6	6.5	4.5	3.3	3.2	4.2	5.7	5.4
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	26.5	28.1	30.1	29.1	30.2	28.0	27.5	24.0	23.0	24.2	22.1	23.9	22.1
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	72.8	75.7	76.1	75.5	71.8	72.1	70.3	72.5	68.5	71.4	70.4	69.9	69.9
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	36.9	42.4	40.6	40.8	41.8	42.4	41.9	39.9	40.7	36.6	42.0	37.2	38.9
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	71.0	73.4	72.5	77.9	72.6	76.0	71.2	71.6	73.8	76.3	77.2	75.7	77.1

Note: See Note, table 2.93. "Young adults" includes high school graduates 1 to 10 years beyond high school. Some data have been revised by the Source and may differ from previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 2, College Students and Young Adults, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Answer alternatives were: (1) no risk, (2) slight risk, (3) moderate risk, (4) great risk, and (5) can't say, drug unfamiliar.



23 to 26 years old									27 to 30 years old					
1992 (N=518)	1993 (N=503)	1994 (N=465)	1995 (N=445)	1996 (N=438)	1997 (N=420)	1998 (N=413)	1999 (N=418)	2000 (N=400)	1995 (N=448)	1996 (N=422)	1997 (N=434)	1998 (N=416)	1999 (N=400)	2000 (N=377)
15.0%	13.0%	15.0%	15.8%	18.5%	15.1%	16.7%	16.4%	13.1%	16.1%	16.2%	16.1%	16.4%	16.1%	14.4%
27.4	24.0	25.5	27.7	27.3	26.4	26.8	26.4	24.9	28.3	28.1	26.0	25.8	25.3	25.8
67.3	64.1	63.2	64.2	62.7	64.0	62.7	60.1	60.3	69.2	67.3	65.0	63.6	66.1	64.0
49.7	49.0	46.8	45.8	46.1	46.6	45.7	49.3	44.9	52.5	50.1	52.0	52.0	49.9	46.4
87.3	85.3	87.5	86.3	84.7	85.6	82.1	85.4	84.1	88.4	87.0	87.2	90.5	87.8	85.3
53.5	54.1	56.0	58.7	57.2	63.1	60.2	62.6	63.1	56.4	53.6	54.6	60.5	61.7	59.9
69.9	72.8	70.3	76.0	71.3	76.5	74.2	77.8	76.2	70.0	67.8	73.8	73.2	75.4	76.5
89.9	91.9	92.6	93.3	90.6	93.2	92.9	92.7	92.9	91.3	91.6	92.7	93.0	92.4	92.3
67.1	64.2	69.3	64.8	68.6	64.7	67.3	64.6	63.2	66.4	66.7	68.5	66.5	65.0	62.9
84.4	81.6	83.2	81.4	85.9	80.8	84.2	81.6	84.0	81.1	81.3	85.3	81.7	79.8	81.6
94.1	93.4	94.9	95.5	96.1	91.4	95.6	94.4	95.6	94.0	94.3	96.0	94.3	95.2	93.5
63.7	65.0	63.3	64.1	63.5	67.3	67.3	68.0	70.7	66.4	66.4	67.9	69.7	70.1	67.4
81.5	82.1	80.8	85.3	82.4	86.5	83.9	88.5	86.6	83.1	83.8	85.8	86.6	87.1	86.5
91.3	91.6	93.0	93.5	92.7	94.4	93.4	93.7	94.8	92.4	92.1	93.8	95.0	93.7	94.2
32.7	32.6	32.9	34.3	34.9	37.8	40.9	41.8	39.9	36.0	36.2	34.5	37.6	36.3	39.4
76.4	76.2	73.6	80.5	78.5	79.1	77.5	78.7	79.0	77.7	75.6	77.4	81.1	82.6	80.8
55.6	52.0	61.0	57.8	64.1	60.7	58.2	61.3	60.1	58.5	59.1	59.8	59.9	61.0	59.7
33.5	32.8	34.0	34.8	35.8	37.3	40.3	39.4	37.0	36.6	37.2	35.7	36.7	35.2	36.3
76.3	75.0	74.3	77.6	77.1	75.2	73.9	75.1	73.8	77.7	74.1	77.1	79.9	80.7	75.5
5.6	3.2	4.5	4.3	4.8	4.4	4.4	6.6	3.5	6.7	4.7	4.0	6.2	5.9	4.7
31.6	25.9	26.2	26.1	22.0	20.2	21.0	26.0	21.7	27.2	24.0	24.8	20.8	25.3	22.0
78.0	76.7	77.5	75.2	72.0	75.1	69.3	72.8	71.7	82.2	76.1	79.3	75.7	75.1	77.4
37.6	36.2	40.2	37.9	39.1	37.4	41.1	40.2	34.9	44.6	41.5	40.0	40.2	41.9	37.9
76.3	78.4	76.4	76.0	76.0	77.6	76.5	80.9	79.7	75.6	73.0	80.3	80.9	80.7	78.4

Table 2.96

**Respondents' perceptions of the harmfulness of selected drug use behaviors**

By age group, United States, 1997 and 1998

Question: "How much do you think people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they do each of the following activities?"

(Percent responding "great risk")

Risk behavior	Age group									
	Total all ages		12 to 17 years		18 to 25 years		26 to 34 years		35 years and older	
	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998	1997	1998
<b>Marijuana</b>										
Smoke once a month	43.4%	41.8%	30.9%	30.8%	28.8%	26.3%	35.3%	32.8%	51.0%	49.4%
Smoke once or twice a week	58.8	57.9	54.0	54.4	46.1	43.9	52.8	51.5	64.1	63.2
<b>Cocaine</b>										
Use once a month	77.9	76.4	54.4	54.3	70.6	69.0	76.1	72.4	84.0	82.8
Use once or twice a week	92.8	91.8	82.4	81.6	90.8	89.6	92.9	91.7	94.9	94.1
<b>Heroin</b>										
Try once or twice	80.9	79.4	53.5	52.8	72.5	72.0	80.0	76.9	87.7	86.2
Use once or twice a week	94.4	94.1	82.2	81.7	92.8	92.4	95.6	94.5	96.5	96.5
<b>Alcohol</b>										
Four or five drinks nearly every day	76.5	75.9	65.3	66.4	68.4	67.9	76.3	74.7	80.2	79.5
Five or more drinks once or twice a week	54.8	54.2	46.5	47.0	42.7	41.8	47.8	48.2	60.6	59.6
<b>Cigarettes</b>										
Smoke one or more packs per day	67.4	67.9	53.6	54.1	61.3	59.9	68.3	67.0	70.9	72.2

Note: These data are from the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Households were randomly sampled from all households in the United States and interviews conducted throughout the year. In 1997, the sample consisted of 24,505 persons; in 1998, the sample consisted of 25,500 persons. The 1998 survey is the 18th in a series of surveys measuring the prevalence of drug and alcohol use among the American household population age 12 and older.

Answer alternatives to the question were "no risk," "slight risk," "moderate risk," and "great risk." For survey methodology, [see Appendix 6](#).

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, *National Household Survey on Drug Abuse: Main Findings 1998* (Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2000), p. 153. Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.97

**High school seniors' perceptions of availability of drugs**

By type of drug, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?"

(Percent responding "fairly easy" or "very easy"<sup>a</sup>)

Type of drug	Class of 1988 (N=3,231)	Class of 1989 (N=2,806)	Class of 1990 (N=2,549)	Class of 1991 (N=2,476)	Class of 1992 (N=2,586)	Class of 1993 (N=2,670)	Class of 1994 (N=2,526)	Class of 1995 (N=2,552)	Class of 1996 (N=2,340)	Class of 1997 (N=2,517)	Class of 1998 (N=2,520)	Class of 1999 (N=2,215)	Class of 2000 (N=2,095)
Marijuana	85.0%	84.3%	84.4%	83.3%	82.7%	83.0%	85.5%	88.5%	88.7%	89.6%	90.4%	88.9%	88.5%
Amyl and butyl nitrites	25.9	26.8	24.4	22.7	25.9	25.9	26.7	26.0	23.9	23.8	25.1	21.4	23.3
LSD	33.3	38.3	40.7	39.5	44.5	49.2	50.8	53.8	51.3	50.7	48.8	44.7	46.9
PCP	24.9	28.9	27.7	27.6	31.7	31.7	31.4	31.0	30.5	30.0	30.7	26.7	28.8
Other psychedelic	26.2	28.2	28.3	28.0	29.9	33.5	33.8	35.8	33.9	33.9	35.1	29.5	34.5
MDMA (ecstasy)	NA	21.7	22.0	22.1	24.2	28.1	31.2	34.2	36.9	38.8	38.2	40.1	51.4
Cocaine powder	50.3	53.7	49.0	46.0	48.0	45.4	43.7	43.8	44.4	43.3	45.7	43.7	44.6
Crack	42.1	47.0	42.4	39.9	43.5	43.6	40.5	41.9	40.7	40.6	43.8	41.1	42.6
Cocaine	55.0	58.7	54.5	51.0	52.7	48.5	46.6	47.7	48.1	48.5	51.3	47.6	47.8
Heroin	28.0	31.4	31.9	30.6	34.9	33.7	34.1	35.1	32.2	33.8	35.6	32.1	33.5
Other narcotic (including methadone)	35.8	38.3	38.1	34.6	37.1	37.5	38.0	39.8	40.0	38.9	42.8	40.8	43.9
Amphetamines	63.9	64.3	59.7	57.3	58.8	61.5	62.0	62.8	59.4	59.8	60.8	58.1	57.1
Crystal methamphetamine (ice)	NA	NA	24.1	24.3	26.0	26.6	25.6	27.0	26.9	27.6	29.8	27.6	27.8
Barbiturates	47.8	48.4	45.9	42.4	44.0	44.5	43.3	42.3	41.4	40.0	40.7	37.9	37.4
Tranquilizers	49.1	45.3	44.7	40.8	40.9	41.1	39.2	37.8	36.0	35.4	36.2	32.7	33.8
Steroids	NA	NA	NA	46.7	46.8	44.8	42.9	45.5	40.3	41.7	44.5	44.6	44.8

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Answer alternatives were: (1) probably impossible, (2) very difficult, (3) fairly difficult, (4) fairly easy, and (5) very easy.

Table 2.98

**Eighth and tenth graders' perceptions of availability of drugs**

By type of drug, United States, 1992, 1995, and 1998-2000

Question: "How difficult do you think it would be for you to get each of the following types of drugs, if you wanted some?"

(Percent responding "fairly easy" or "very easy"<sup>a</sup>)

Type of drug	Eighth graders					Tenth graders				
	1992 (N=8,355)	1995 (N=15,496)	1998 (N=16,208)	1999 (N=15,397)	2000 (N=15,180)	1992 (N=7,014)	1995 (N=16,209)	1998 (N=14,423)	1999 (N=13,112)	2000 (N=13,690)
Marijuana	42.3%	52.4%	50.6%	48.4%	47.0%	65.2%	78.1%	77.9%	78.2%	77.7%
LSD	21.5	23.5	19.3	18.3	17.0	33.6	39.8	34.0	34.3	32.9
PCP <sup>b</sup>	18.0	19.0	17.5	17.1	16.0	23.7	24.7	23.9	24.5	25.0
Crack	25.6	28.7	26.5	25.9	24.9	33.7	34.6	36.3	36.5	34.0
Cocaine powder	25.7	27.8	25.7	25.0	23.9	35.0	35.3	36.8	36.7	34.5
Heroin	19.7	21.1	18.0	17.5	16.5	24.3	24.6	23.0	23.7	22.3
Other narcotics <sup>b</sup>	19.8	20.3	17.1	16.2	15.6	26.9	27.8	26.1	26.6	27.2
Amphetamines	32.2	33.4	27.3	25.9	25.5	43.4	47.7	41.0	41.3	40.9
Crystal methamphetamine (ice) <sup>b</sup>	16.0	16.0	16.0	14.7	14.9	18.8	20.7	22.1	21.8	22.8
Barbiturates	27.4	26.5	21.1	20.8	19.7	38.0	38.8	32.7	33.2	32.4
Tranquilizers	22.9	21.3	18.1	17.3	16.2	31.6	30.6	26.5	26.8	27.6
Alcohol	76.2	74.9	73.1	72.3	70.6	88.6	89.7	88.0	88.2	87.7
Steroids	24.0	23.8	22.3	22.6	22.3	37.6	34.8	33.0	35.9	35.4

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1993, 1994, 1996, and 1997 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup>Answer alternatives were: (1) probably impossible, (2) very difficult, (3) fairly difficult, (4) fairly easy, (5) very easy, and (6) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

<sup>b</sup>Beginning in 1995, data are based on half the questionnaire forms; N is one-half of N indicated.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.99

**High school seniors disapproving of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking**

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Do you disapprove of people (who are 18 or older) doing each of the following?"

(Percent responding "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove"<sup>a</sup>)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Class of 1988 (N=3,311)	Class of 1989 (N=2,799)	Class of 1990 (N=2,566)	Class of 1991 (N=2,547)	Class of 1992 (N=2,645)	Class of 1993 (N=2,723)	Class of 1994 (N=2,588)	Class of 1995 (N=2,603)	Class of 1996 (N=2,399)	Class of 1997 (N=2,601)	Class of 1998 (N=2,545)	Class of 1999 (N=2,310)	Class of 2000 (N=2,150)
Try marijuana once or twice	60.8%	64.6%	67.8%	68.7%	69.9%	63.3%	57.6%	56.7%	52.5%	51.0%	51.6%	48.8%	52.5%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	74.0	77.2	80.5	79.4	79.7	75.5	68.9	66.7	62.9	63.2	64.4	62.5	65.8
Smoke marijuana regularly	89.3	89.8	91.0	89.3	90.1	87.6	82.3	81.9	80.0	78.8	81.2	78.6	79.7
Try LSD once or twice	89.8	89.7	89.8	90.1	88.1	85.9	82.5	81.1	79.6	80.5	82.1	83.0	82.4
Take LSD regularly	96.4	96.4	96.3	96.4	95.5	95.8	94.3	92.5	93.2	92.9	93.5	94.3	94.2
Try MDMA (ecstasy) once or twice	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	82.2	82.5	82.1	81.0
Try cocaine once or twice	89.1	90.5	91.5	93.6	93.0	92.7	91.6	90.3	90.0	88.0	89.5	89.1	88.2
Take cocaine regularly	96.2	96.4	96.7	97.3	96.9	97.5	96.6	96.1	95.6	96.0	95.6	94.9	95.5
Try crack once or twice	NA	NA	92.3	92.1	93.1	89.9	89.5	91.4	87.4	87.0	86.7	87.6	87.5
Take crack occasionally	NA	NA	94.3	94.2	95.0	92.8	92.8	94.0	91.2	91.3	90.9	92.3	91.9
Take crack regularly	NA	NA	94.9	95.0	95.5	93.4	93.1	94.1	93.0	92.3	91.9	93.2	92.8
Try cocaine powder once or twice	NA	NA	87.9	88.0	89.4	86.6	87.1	88.3	83.1	83.0	83.1	84.3	84.1
Take cocaine powder occasionally	NA	NA	92.1	93.0	93.4	91.2	91.0	92.7	89.7	89.3	88.7	90.0	90.3
Take cocaine powder regularly	NA	NA	93.7	94.4	94.3	93.0	92.5	93.8	92.9	91.5	91.1	92.3	92.6
Try heroin once or twice	95.0	95.4	95.1	96.0	94.9	94.4	93.2	92.8	92.1	92.3	93.7	93.5	93.0
Take heroin occasionally	96.9	97.2	96.7	97.3	96.8	97.0	96.2	95.7	95.0	95.4	96.1	95.7	96.0
Take heroin regularly	97.2	97.4	97.5	97.8	97.2	97.5	97.1	96.4	96.3	96.4	96.6	96.4	96.6
Try amphetamines once or twice	82.5	83.3	85.3	86.5	86.9	84.2	81.3	82.2	79.9	81.3	82.5	81.9	82.1
Take amphetamines regularly	94.2	94.2	95.5	96.0	95.6	96.0	94.1	94.3	93.5	94.3	94.0	93.7	94.1
Try barbiturates once or twice	89.4	89.3	90.5	90.6	90.3	89.7	87.5	87.3	84.9	86.4	86.0	86.6	85.9
Take barbiturates regularly	95.3	95.3	96.4	97.1	96.5	97.0	96.1	95.2	94.8	95.3	94.6	94.7	95.2
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	22.6	27.3	29.4	29.8	33.0	30.1	28.4	27.3	26.5	26.1	24.5	24.6	25.2
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	75.0	76.5	77.9	76.5	75.9	77.8	73.1	73.3	70.8	70.0	69.4	67.2	70.0
Take four or five drinks nearly every day	92.8	91.6	91.9	90.6	90.8	90.6	89.8	88.8	89.4	88.6	86.7	86.9	88.4
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	65.3	66.5	68.9	67.4	70.7	70.1	65.1	66.7	64.7	65.0	63.8	62.7	65.2
Smoke one or more packs of cigarettes per day	73.1	72.4	72.8	71.4	73.5	70.6	69.8	68.2	67.2	67.1	68.8	69.5	70.1
Take steroids	NA	NA	90.8	90.5	92.1	92.1	91.9	91.0	91.7	91.4	90.8	88.9	88.8

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1977 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup> Answer alternatives were: (1) don't disapprove, (2) disapprove, and (3) strongly disapprove.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.100

**Eighth and tenth graders disapproving of drug use and alcohol use**

By type of drug and frequency of use, United States, 1991, 1995, and 1998-2000

Question: "Do you disapprove of people who . . .?"

(Percent responding "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove"<sup>a</sup>)

Type of drug and frequency of use	Eighth graders					Tenth graders				
	1991 (N=17,400)	1995 (N=17,600)	1998 (N=18,100)	1999 (N=16,700)	2000 (N=16,700)	1991 (N=14,800)	1995 (N=17,000)	1998 (N=15,000)	1999 (N=13,600)	2000 (N=14,300)
Try marijuana once or twice	84.6%	70.7%	69.0%	70.7%	72.5%	74.6%	59.8%	56.0%	56.2%	54.9%
Smoke marijuana occasionally	89.5	79.7	78.4	79.3	80.6	83.7	70.0	67.3	68.2	67.2
Smoke marijuana regularly	92.1	85.1	84.5	84.5	85.3	90.4	81.1	80.1	79.8	79.1
Try inhalants once or twice <sup>b</sup>	84.9	81.8	83.0	85.2	85.4	85.2	84.5	85.6	88.4	87.5
Take inhalants regularly <sup>b</sup>	90.6	88.8	89.5	90.3	90.2	91.0	90.9	91.1	92.4	91.8
Try LSD once or twice <sup>c</sup>	NA	71.6	69.1	69.4	66.7	NA	77.9	76.7	77.8	77.0
Take LSD regularly <sup>c</sup>	NA	75.8	72.5	72.5	69.3	NA	84.8	82.9	84.3	82.1
Try crack once or twice <sup>b</sup>	91.7	85.9	85.4	86.0	85.4	92.5	88.7	87.1	87.8	87.1
Take crack occasionally <sup>b</sup>	93.3	89.8	89.5	89.9	88.8	94.3	91.7	90.6	91.5	90.9
Try cocaine powder once or twice <sup>b</sup>	91.2	85.3	84.5	85.2	84.8	90.8	86.8	84.9	86.0	84.8
Take cocaine powder occasionally <sup>b</sup>	93.1	89.7	89.3	89.9	88.8	94.0	91.4	89.7	90.7	89.9
Try heroin once or twice without using a needle <sup>c</sup>	NA	85.8	87.3	88.0	87.2	NA	89.7	88.6	90.1	90.1
Take heroin occasionally without using a needle <sup>c</sup>	NA	88.5	89.7	90.2	88.9	NA	91.6	90.5	91.8	92.3
Try one or two drinks of an alcoholic beverage (beer, wine, liquor)	51.7	48.0	47.5	48.3	48.7	37.6	36.1	34.7	35.1	33.4
Take one or two drinks nearly every day	82.2	75.9	76.9	77.0	77.8	81.7	75.4	74.6	75.4	73.8
Have five or more drinks once or twice each weekend	85.2	80.7	81.0	80.3	81.2	76.7	72.2	70.5	69.9	68.2

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1992 through 1994, 1996, and 1997 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. The Ns are approximate. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup>Answer alternatives were: (1) don't disapprove, (2) disapprove, (3) strongly disapprove, and (6) can't say, drug unfamiliar.

<sup>b</sup>Beginning in 1998, data are based on two-thirds of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

<sup>c</sup>Data for 1995 are based on one of two questionnaire forms; N is one-half of N indicated. Beginning in 1998, N is one-third of N indicated due to changes in questionnaire forms.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.101

**High school seniors favoring prohibition of drug use, alcohol use, and cigarette smoking**

By type of drug and place of use, United States, 1988-2000

Question: "Do you think that people (who are 18 or older) should be prohibited by law from doing each of the following?"

(Percent responding "yes"<sup>a</sup>)

	Class of 1988 (N=3,288)	Class of 1989 (N=2,813)	Class of 1990 (N=2,571)	Class of 1991 (N=2,512)	Class of 1992 (N=2,671)	Class of 1993 (N=2,759)	Class of 1994 (N=2,603)	Class of 1995 (N=2,578)	Class of 1996 (N=2,422)	Class of 1997 (N=2,587)	Class of 1998 (N=2,563)	Class of 1999 (N=2,283)	Class of 2000 (N=2,197)
Smoke marijuana in private	51.8%	51.5%	56.0%	51.6%	52.4%	48.0%	42.9%	44.0%	40.4%	38.8%	39.8%	39.3%	38.8%
Smoke marijuana in public places	81.3	80.0	81.9	79.8	78.3	77.3	72.5	72.9	70.0	69.4	72.2	71.5	72.1
Take LSD in private	71.5	71.6	72.9	68.1	67.2	63.5	63.2	64.3	62.0	61.2	64.7	62.6	62.9
Take LSD in public places	86.0	84.4	84.9	83.9	82.2	82.1	80.5	81.5	79.2	80.3	82.7	80.4	80.4
Take heroin in private	74.2	74.4	76.4	72.8	71.4	70.7	70.1	72.2	70.8	70.6	73.9	72.9	71.1
Take heroin in public places	86.6	85.2	86.7	85.4	83.3	84.5	82.9	84.8	82.3	84.3	86.4	84.2	83.9
Take amphetamines or bar- biturates in private	60.2	61.1	64.5	59.7	60.5	57.4	55.7	57.5	54.6	54.6	58.5	55.1	56.0
Take amphetamines or bar- biturates in public places	80.2	79.2	81.6	79.7	78.5	78.0	76.4	77.6	74.3	76.5	77.4	76.1	75.4
Get drunk in private	19.2	20.2	23.0	22.0	24.4	22.1	21.0	21.6	21.4	20.5	20.2	20.5	21.5
Get drunk in public places	53.8	52.6	54.6	54.3	54.1	53.6	54.3	54.5	52.8	51.7	51.2	52.8	51.9
Smoke cigarettes in certain specified public places	48.4	44.5	47.3	44.9	47.6	45.9	47.3	45.1	43.4	41.3	41.1	43.2	45.1

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

<sup>a</sup> Answer alternatives were: (1) no, (2) not sure, and (3) yes.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.102

**High school seniors' attitudes toward the legalization of marijuana use**

United States, 1988-2000

Question: "There has been a great deal of public debate about whether marijuana use should be legal. Which of the following policies would you favor?"

(Percent favoring policy)

Policy	Class of 1988 (N=3,277)	Class of 1989 (N=2,812)	Class of 1990 (N=2,570)	Class of 1991 (N=2,515)	Class of 1992 (N=2,672)	Class of 1993 (N=2,768)	Class of 1994 (N=2,597)	Class of 1995 (N=2,574)	Class of 1996 (N=2,426)	Class of 1997 (N=2,585)	Class of 1998 (N=2,566)	Class of 1999 (N=2,285)	Class of 2000 (N=2,197)
Using marijuana should be entirely legal	15.1%	16.6%	15.9%	18.0%	18.7%	22.8%	26.8%	30.4%	31.2%	30.8%	27.9%	27.3%	31.2%
It should be a minor violation like a parking ticket but not a crime	21.9	18.9	17.4	19.2	18.0	18.7	19.0	18.0	21.0	20.7	24.3	23.7	23.4
It should be a crime	49.2	50.0	53.2	48.6	47.6	43.4	39.4	37.3	33.8	34.0	32.6	32.5	30.2
Don't know	13.9	14.6	13.6	14.3	15.7	15.1	14.8	14.4	13.9	14.5	15.2	16.5	15.2

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.103

**High school seniors' attitudes toward legalization of the sale of marijuana if the use of marijuana were legal**

United States, 1988-2000

Question: "If it were legal for people to USE marijuana, should it also be legal to SELL marijuana?"

	Class of 1988 (N=3,277)	Class of 1989 (N=2,812)	Class of 1990 (N=2,570)	Class of 1991 (N=2,515)	Class of 1992 (N=2,672)	Class of 1993 (N=2,768)	Class of 1994 (N=2,597)	Class of 1995 (N=2,574)	Class of 1996 (N=2,426)	Class of 1997 (N=2,585)	Class of 1998 (N=2,566)	Class of 1999 (N=2,285)	Class of 2000 (N=2,197)
No	36.8%	38.8%	40.1%	36.8%	37.8%	36.7%	33.1%	32.3%	29.4%	29.1%	30.2%	30.2%	27.4%
Yes, but only to adults	39.9	37.9	38.8	41.4	39.5	40.7	41.7	43.4	46.7	44.8	42.4	42.9	45.5
Yes, to anyone	10.5	9.2	9.6	9.4	9.6	10.1	11.6	11.7	11.1	12.5	11.9	12.1	13.4
Don't know	12.8	14.1	11.6	12.5	13.1	12.5	13.7	12.6	12.8	13.7	15.5	14.7	13.6

Note: See Note, table 2.93. Readers interested in responses to this question for 1975 through 1987 should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For survey methodology and definitions of terms, see Appendix 5.

Source: Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use from the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Vol. 1, Secondary School Students, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute on Drug Abuse (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff.

Table 2.104

**College freshmen reporting that marijuana should be legalized**

By sex, United States, 1968-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Marijuana should be legalized		
	Total	Male	Female
1968	19.4%	21.4%	16.9%
1969	25.6	28.1	22.4
1970	38.4	41.0	35.2
1971	38.7	41.7	35.0
1972	46.6	49.6	43.0
1973	48.2	50.9	45.2
1974	46.7	49.7	43.4
1975	47.2	50.7	43.3
1976	48.9	51.6	46.1
1977	52.9	56.6	49.2
1978	49.5	52.1	47.1
1979	46.0	48.6	43.6
1980	39.3	42.1	36.6
1981	34.0	36.3	31.9
1982	29.4	32.5	26.4
1983	25.7	28.4	23.1
1984	22.9	25.8	20.3
1985	21.8	24.8	18.9
1986	21.3	25.0	18.0
1987	19.3	23.1	15.9
1988	19.3	22.8	16.4
1989	16.7	20.1	13.7
1990	18.6	21.7	16.0
1991	20.9	24.2	18.0
1992	23.0	26.6	19.9
1993	28.2	32.1	25.0
1994	32.1	36.4	28.3
1995	33.8	38.3	30.0
1996	33.0	37.2	29.6
1997	35.2	39.0	32.0
1998	32.4	38.6	27.2
1999	33.9	39.2	29.4
2000	34.2	40.4	29.1

Note: These figures are taken from the Cooperative Institutional Research Program Freshman Survey, which is conducted annually by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at the University of California, Los Angeles. The survey covers a wide range of student characteristics including demographic and background information, high school activities, college plans, values, attitudes, and beliefs. Each fall, the HERI surveys approximately 300,000 full-time students entering the freshman classes from a nationally representative sample of colleges and universities in the United States. Both 2-year and 4-year institutions are included in the data for 1968-99. Beginning in 2000, the survey includes only 4-year colleges and universities (baccalaureate institutions). Two-year institutions are not included due to declining participation rates and increased need for data adjustment.

From 1966 to 1970, approximately 15% of the Nation's institutions of higher education were selected by sampling procedures to participate in the program. Beginning in 1971, a stratified sample was selected from all institutions that have entering freshman classes and that respond to the U.S. Department of Education's Higher Education General Information Survey. An institution is considered eligible if it was operating at the time of the survey and if it had a full-time freshman class of at least 25 students. The data presented are weighted estimates of all first-time, full-time students entering higher education institutions in the fall of each year. Published reports on trends over 30 years or reports on individual annual survey results can be obtained by writing to the Higher Education Research Institute, 3005 Moore Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1521.

Response categories were "agree strongly," "agree somewhat," "disagree somewhat," and "disagree strongly." The text or format of the questions or responses may differ slightly in different years.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.105

**College freshmen reporting that abortion should be legal**

By sex, United States, 1977-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Abortion should be legal		
	Total	Male	Female
1977	55.7%	55.8%	55.6%
1978	56.7	56.5	56.9
1979	53.3	53.0	53.6
1980	53.6	53.3	53.8
1981	53.9	53.0	54.7
1982	54.8	53.7	55.9
1983	54.8	54.7	54.8
1984	53.8	53.3	54.2
1985	54.9	54.5	55.3
1986	58.6	58.3	59.0
1987	58.7	58.7	58.7
1988	57.0	56.8	57.2
1989	64.7	63.6	65.5
1990	64.9	65.0	64.8
1991	63.0	63.0	63.0
1992	64.1	63.9	64.2
1993	62.4	61.8	62.8
1994	59.7	59.0	60.3
1995	58.4	57.8	58.9
1996	56.3	55.7	56.7
1997	53.5	53.7	53.3
1998	50.9	52.5	49.5
1999	52.7	53.8	51.7
2000	53.9	54.5	53.5

Note: See Note, table 2.104.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.106

**College freshmen reporting there is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals**

By sex, United States, 1969-83 and 1987-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	There is too much concern in the courts for the rights of criminals		
	Total	Male	Female
1969	54.3%	60.0%	46.8%
1970	51.6	57.5	44.5
1971	48.1	53.9	41.1
1972	50.3	56.4	43.0
1973	50.1	55.7	43.7
1974	51.5	56.9	45.6
1975	53.5	59.1	47.1
1976	59.7	64.8	54.3
1977	64.3	69.2	59.2
1978	65.4	70.3	60.6
1979	62.4	68.1	57.0
1980	65.9	70.5	61.6
1981	69.1	74.2	64.2
1982	69.8	74.3	65.5
1983	68.8	72.5	65.2
1987	68.3	71.4	65.5
1988	69.1	72.7	66.0
1989	68.5	71.9	65.5
1990	66.3	69.8	63.2
1991	65.3	67.6	63.4
1992	66.7	68.8	64.8
1993	67.6	70.1	65.5
1994	73.0	75.0	71.3
1995	73.3	74.4	72.5
1996	71.6	73.0	70.4
1997	70.2	70.6	69.9
1998	72.8	74.3	71.5
1999	71.8	73.1	70.7
2000	66.5	67.8	65.5

Note: See Note, table 2.104.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.107

**College freshmen reporting that capital punishment should be abolished**

By sex, United States, 1969, 1970, 1971, and 1978-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Capital punishment should be abolished		
	Total	Male	Female
1969	53.9%	50.0%	59.0%
1970	56.3	53.4	59.8
1971	57.6	53.2	62.8
1978	32.6	26.8	38.2
1979	34.5	28.0	40.7
1980	34.5	28.0	40.5
1981	30.1	24.7	35.2
1982	28.4	23.1	33.5
1983	28.9	23.9	33.7
1984	26.0	22.2	29.6
1985	26.6	22.6	30.2
1986	25.4	21.4	29.1
1987	23.8	20.4	27.0
1988	23.0	19.6	26.0
1989	21.3	18.4	23.8
1990	21.5	18.5	24.1
1991	21.2	18.8	23.2
1992	21.0	18.1	23.5
1993	22.1	19.2	24.5
1994	20.1	17.7	22.1
1995	20.9	18.1	23.2
1996	22.2	19.0	24.8
1997	23.7	20.9	26.1
1998	22.8	19.5	25.6
1999	24.7	21.8	27.1
2000	31.2	27.4	34.3

Note: See Note, table 2.104.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.



Table 2.108

**College freshmen reporting that homosexual relations should be legally prohibited**

By sex, United States, 1976-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	It is important to have laws prohibiting homosexual relations		
	Total	Male	Female
1976	47.0%	55.0%	38.6%
1977	48.6	56.7	40.3
1978	46.3	54.4	38.5
1979	47.3	56.2	39.0
1980	48.9	58.1	40.3
1981	48.6	57.8	39.9
1982	47.2	57.0	37.6
1983	49.0	58.3	39.9
1984	47.8	57.9	38.4
1985	47.9	58.3	38.3
1986	52.2	62.5	42.8
1987	53.1	62.5	44.6
1988	49.0	59.7	39.9
1989	45.4	57.3	35.1
1990	44.4	56.0	34.5
1991	42.2	53.4	32.5
1992	37.6	48.6	28.3
1993	36.2	47.7	26.6
1994	33.9	45.4	24.0
1995	30.6	42.4	20.7
1996	33.5	45.2	24.1
1997	33.9	45.5	24.1
1998	33.3	43.4	24.8
1999	30.3	40.6	21.7
2000	27.2	36.0	20.1

Note: See Note, table 2.104.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.109

**College freshmen reporting that drug testing by employers should be allowed**

By sex, United States, 1988-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	Employers should be allowed to require drug testing of employees or job applicants		
	Total	Male	Female
1988	71.0%	69.8%	72.0%
1989	77.8	76.5	78.9
1990	80.4	78.5	82.1
1991	80.8	79.1	82.3
1992	82.4	80.5	83.9
1993	79.6	77.4	81.5
1994	80.6	78.3	82.5
1995	77.3	74.1	80.0
1996	79.2	76.4	81.4
1997	78.4	75.0	81.2
1998	78.5	74.6	81.8
1999	77.8	74.4	80.6
2000	76.5	73.3	79.2

Note: See Note, table 2.104.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.110

**College freshmen reporting that the Federal Government should do more to control the sale of handguns**

By sex, United States, 1989-2000

(Percent indicating "agree strongly" or "agree somewhat")

	The Federal Government should do more to control the sale of handguns		
	Total	Male	Female
1989	78.2%	67.2%	87.6%
1990	77.1	65.5	87.0
1991	78.1	66.8	87.8
1992	80.4	69.4	89.6
1993	81.8	71.8	90.2
1994	79.9	69.2	89.2
1995	80.8	70.2	89.7
1996	81.6	71.6	89.5
1997	81.3	70.8	90.1
1998	82.5	72.7	90.8
1999	82.3	72.6	90.5
2000	82.0	72.6	89.6

Note: See Note, table 2.104.

Source: Alexander W. Astin et al., *The American Freshman: Thirty Year Trends*, Higher Education Research Institute (Los Angeles: University of California, 1997), pp. 58, 59, 88, 89, 118, 119; and Linda J. Sax et al., *The American Freshman: National Norms for Fall 1997*, Higher Education Research Institute, pp. 29, 49, 69; **1998**, pp. 30, 48, 66; **1999**, pp. 32, 52, 72; **2000**, pp. 29, 49, 69 (Los Angeles: University of California). Table adapted by SOURCEBOOK staff. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.111

**Attitudes toward laws regulating the distribution of pornography**

By demographic characteristics, United States, selected years 1986-2000

Question: "Which of these statements comes closest to your feelings about pornography laws:  
 There should be laws against the distribution of pornography whatever the age; there  
 should be laws against the distribution of pornography to persons under 18; or there  
 should be no laws forbidding the distribution of pornography?"<sup>a</sup>

	1986			1987			1988			1989			1990		
	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distri- bution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distri- bution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distri- bution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distri- bution	Laws forbidding distribution		No laws forbidding distri- bution
	What- ever the age	To persons under 18		What- ever the age	To persons under 18		What- ever the age	To persons under 18		What- ever the age	To persons under 18		What- ever the age	To persons under 18	
National	43%	53%	4%	40%	55%	4%	43%	50%	5%	40%	54%	5%	41%	52%	6%
<b>Sex</b>															
Male	30	64	4	26	67	5	33	59	6	29	63	7	33	59	6
Female	52	44	4	50	46	3	51	43	4	49	46	3	47	47	5
<b>Race</b>															
White	43	53	3	41	54	4	45	49	5	41	54	4	42	51	5
Black/other	38	53	6	33	61	3	35	58	6	38	52	7	34	57	7
<b>Age</b>															
18 to 20 years	21	74	5	26	74	0	23	71	6	36	56	8	17	65	13
21 to 29 years	26	71	2	25	70	5	28	67	4	27	68	3	29	67	3
30 to 49 years	35	60	4	32	63	4	38	57	4	30	65	4	36	60	4
50 years and older	40	55	4	36	60	4	32	61	7	59	33	6	53	36	8
<b>Education<sup>a</sup></b>															
College	38	58	4	32	63	4	37	58	4	34	59	5	36	57	7
High school graduate	42	54	4	43	53	3	46	47	5	43	53	4	44	51	5
Less than high school graduate	61	31	2	56	34	7	55	30	6	59	29	7	47	38	5
<b>Income</b>															
\$50,000 and over	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$30,000 to \$49,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
\$20,000 to \$29,999	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Under \$20,000	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
<b>Occupation</b>															
Professional/business	40	55	4	35	59	4	40	54	4	37	58	4	38	55	6
Clerical/support	50	48	2	51	46	3	53	44	2	48	48	3	47	50	4
Manual/service	40	55	4	39	55	4	41	51	6	39	53	6	40	52	5
Farming/agriculture	60	40	0	38	58	5	56	31	12	44	38	12	35	59	6
<b>Region</b>															
Northeast	60	34	4	57	37	4	58	32	5	36	56	5	32	62	5
Midwest	42	54	3	39	55	5	45	48	3	39	56	4	38	54	7
South	47	48	4	43	52	4	48	45	5	44	49	6	49	44	5
West	38	58	4	39	55	4	44	52	4	40	56	4	38	55	6
<b>Religion</b>															
Protestant	47	49	3	43	53	3	48	46	4	46	50	4	46	48	5
Catholic	40	56	3	40	56	3	40	55	3	34	61	2	39	56	4
Jewish	18	71	10	20	65	15	13	65	17	24	71	6	20	53	20
None	24	66	8	16	71	11	21	64	12	22	59	16	22	66	9
<b>Politics</b>															
Republican	47	49	3	44	51	4	46	48	3	42	53	4	43	50	5
Democrat	44	50	4	41	54	4	44	49	6	44	51	5	44	47	7
Independent	37	59	3	34	61	4	39	54	5	34	58	5	34	60	5

Note: See Note, table 2.19. The "don't know" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. Readers interested in responses to this question for previous years should consult previous editions of SOURCEBOOK. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: National Opinion Research Center, "General Social Surveys, 1972-2000," Storrs, CT: The Roper Center for Public Opinion Research, University of Connecticut. (Machine-readable data files.) Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff.

<sup>a</sup>Beginning in 1996, education categories were revised slightly and therefore are not directly comparable to data presented for prior years.

1991			1993			1994			1996			1998			2000		
Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution			Laws forbidding distribution		
What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution	What- ever the age	To persons under 18	No laws forbidding distri- bution
40%	55%	4%	42%	54%	3%	37%	60%	3%	38%	58%	4%	38%	57%	4%	36%	60%	3%
26	66	6	32	62	5	26	68	5	25	70	4	27	67	5	24	72	3
49	47	3	48	48	2	45	52	2	48	48	4	47	49	3	45	51	3
41	54	4	44	53	3	38	58	3	39	56	4	39	56	4	36	60	3
31	60	6	31	60	6	31	65	3	31	64	3	32	63	3	34	59	5
16	79	0	28	59	10	15	79	3	23	70	6	30	66	3	18	77	4
30	66	3	24	72	3	25	72	2	25	72	2	17	79	4	17	78	4
33	63	4	33	64	3	28	69	3	30	66	3	33	64	3	29	68	2
54	38	5	60	34	3	54	41	4	54	39	5	54	39	5	52	43	4
36	59	4	36	60	3	30	66	3	32	63	4	32	64	3	31	65	3
42	53	4	46	49	3	42	56	2	41	57	2	44	51	4	41	55	3
51	43	4	55	39	4	54	34	9	48	43	6	44	49	6	42	52	3
NA	NA	NA	35	60	5	32	65	2	31	65	3	34	63	3	30	67	3
NA	NA	NA	37	60	2	34	63	3	34	62	3	39	57	4	32	66	2
NA	NA	NA	41	53	4	35	60	4	39	56	4	32	65	2	34	61	4
NA	NA	NA	47	49	2	41	55	3	39	54	4	42	51	6	44	51	3
35	60	4	38	58	3	32	64	3	34	62	4	35	61	4	31	65	3
45	51	4	48	48	4	43	55	1	41	56	3	45	50	4	46	50	3
41	53	4	42	54	3	35	61	4	38	57	3	35	60	3	34	61	3
25	65	5	42	53	5	38	52	5	45	47	3	52	48	0	49	49	3
34	61	3	38	56	5	32	63	4	34	60	5	32	62	5	31	66	3
41	54	5	40	56	3	34	63	2	40	56	3	40	57	3	35	61	4
39	54	5	47	49	2	43	53	3	42	53	3	41	54	4	43	53	2
44	53	3	38	57	4	32	64	3	30	65	4	36	60	4	27	66	5
43	52	3	49	47	2	43	54	2	45	51	3	46	50	3	44	53	2
38	58	4	35	62	3	32	66	2	30	65	4	33	62	4	31	66	2
4	82	9	20	80	0	20	76	5	24	63	11	19	72	6	19	79	2
18	66	11	15	75	9	17	75	7	18	73	6	18	74	6	16	76	7
43	54	2	52	45	3	43	55	2	43	53	4	43	53	3	42	56	2
38	55	4	41	55	3	36	61	2	36	59	4	37	58	4	36	59	4
38	56	5	35	60	4	33	63	4	35	61	3	36	59	4	32	63	4

Table 2.112

**Attitudes toward the legality of homosexual relations**

United States, selected years 1977-2001

Question: "Do you think homosexual relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

	Legal	Not legal	No opinion
1977	43%	43%	14%
1982	45	39	16
1985	44	47	9
1986	33	54	13
1987	33	55	12
1989	47	36	17
1992	48	44	8
1996	44	47	9
1999	50	43	7
2001	54	42	4

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 10-14, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

Source: The Gallup Organization, Inc., *The Gallup Poll* [Online]. Available: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/releases/pr010604.asp> [June 4, 2001]. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.113

**Attitudes toward the legality of homosexual relations**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you think homosexual relations between consenting adults should or should not be legal?"

	Legal	Not legal	No opinion
National	54%	42%	4%
<b>Sex</b>			
Male	49	46	5
Female	57	39	4
<b>Race</b>			
White	54	41	5
Black	51	48	1
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	49	48	3
<b>Age</b>			
18 to 29 years	65	33	2
30 to 49 years	58	39	3
50 to 64 years	49	45	6
50 years and older	42	51	7
65 years and older	33	58	9
<b>Education</b>			
College post graduate	71	25	4
College graduate	68	30	2
Some college	59	37	4
High school graduate or less	40	55	5
<b>Income</b>			
\$75,000 and over	69	28	3
\$50,000 to \$74,999	57	39	4
\$30,000 to \$49,999	53	43	4
\$20,000 to \$29,999	50	44	6
Under \$20,000	45	51	4
<b>Community</b>			
Urban area	60	37	3
Suburban area	54	40	6
Rural area	45	52	3
<b>Region</b>			
East	59	37	4
Midwest	56	40	4
South	45	50	5
West	56	39	5
<b>Politics</b>			
Republican	38	57	5
Democrat	57	40	3
Independent	64	32	4

Note: See Note, table 2.112. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see Appendix 4.

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.114

**Attitudes toward the legality of abortion**

United States, selected years 1975-2001

Question: "Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?"

	Always legal	Legal under certain circumstances	Never legal	No opinion
1975	21%	54%	22%	3%
1977	22	55	19	4
1979	22	54	19	5
1980	25	53	18	4
1981	23	52	21	4
1983	23	58	16	3
1985	21	55	21	3
1988	24	57	17	2
April 1989	27	50	18	5
July 1989	29	51	17	3
1990	31	53	12	4
May 1991	32	50	17	1
September 1991	33	49	14	4
January 1992	31	53	14	2
June 1992	34	48	13	5
1993	32	51	13	4
March 1994	31	51	15	3
September 1994	33	52	13	2
February 1995	33	50	15	2
September 1995	31	54	12	3
July 1996	25	58	15	2
September 1996	24	52	17	7
August 1997	22	61	15	2
November 1997	26	55	17	2
1998	23	59	17	1
1999	27	55	16	2
January 2000	26	56	15	3
March 2000	28	51	19	2
2001	26	58	15	1

Note: Sample sizes vary from year to year; the data for 2001 are based on telephone interviews with a randomly selected national sample of 1,012 adults, 18 years of age and older, conducted May 10-14, 2001. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Table 2.115

**Attitudes toward the legality of abortion**

By demographic characteristics, United States, 2001

Question: "Do you think abortions should be legal under any circumstances, legal only under certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?"

	Always legal	Legal under certain circumstances	Never legal
National	26%	58%	15%
<u>Sex</u>			
Male	23	60	16
Female	28	56	15
<u>Race</u>			
White	26	57	16
Black	27	57	16
Nonwhite <sup>a</sup>	24	62	14
<u>Age</u>			
18 to 29 years	31	56	13
30 to 49 years	24	57	18
50 to 64 years	32	54	12
50 years and older	26	58	14
65 years and older	17	64	18
<u>Education</u>			
College post graduate	30	64	6
College graduate	31	54	13
Some college	26	59	14
High school graduate or less	23	57	19
<u>Income</u>			
\$75,000 and over	35	47	18
\$50,000 to \$74,999	21	60	17
\$30,000 to \$49,999	29	59	11
\$20,000 to \$29,999	21	60	18
Under \$20,000	26	59	15
<u>Community</u>			
Urban area	29	61	10
Suburban area	29	53	17
Rural area	17	63	18
<u>Region</u>			
East	30	57	12
Midwest	26	59	14
South	20	60	18
West	29	54	16
<u>Politics</u>			
Republican	14	59	27
Democrat	31	55	13
Independent	31	59	7

Note: See Note, table 2.114. The "no opinion" category has been omitted; therefore percents may not sum to 100. For a discussion of public opinion survey sampling procedures, see [Appendix 4](#).

<sup>a</sup>Includes black respondents.

Source: Table constructed by SOURCEBOOK staff from data provided by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Reprinted by permission.

Page 184 intentionally blank.

## Appendix 4

### Public opinion survey sampling procedures

Note: Information on Gallup survey sampling procedures was excerpted from George H. Gallup, *The Gallup Poll, Public Opinion 1934-1971, Vol. 1, 1935-1948* (New York: Random House, 1972), pp. vi-viii; George H. Gallup, *The Gallup Opinion Index*, Report No. 162 (Princeton, NJ: The Gallup Poll, January 1979), pp. 29, 30; George Gallup, *The Sophisticated Poll Watcher's Guide* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Opinion Press, 1976), p. 102; and from information provided to SOURCEBOOK staff by The Gallup Organization, Inc. Information on the Harris Poll survey sampling procedures was provided to SOURCEBOOK staff by Harris Interactive, Inc., formerly Louis Harris and Associates, Inc.; similar procedures used in earlier surveys are described in Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., *The Harris Yearbook of Public Opinion 1970: A Compendium of Current American Attitudes* (New York: Louis Harris and Associates, Inc., 1971), pp. 511-514. Information on the survey procedures employed by the National Opinion Research Center was excerpted from the National Opinion Research Center, *General Social Surveys, 1972-2000: Cumulative Codebook* (Chicago: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago, 2001), pp. v, vi, 61, 1288, 1289, 1525, 1526. Information on the Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll was excerpted from Stanley M. Elam, Lowell C. Rose, and Alec M. Gallup, "The 28th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1996), p. 58; Lowell C. Rose, Alec M. Gallup, and Stanley M. Elam, "The 29th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappa* [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kpoll97.htm> [Dec. 31, 1997]; Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 30th Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappa* [Online]. Available: <http://www.pdkintl.org/kappan/kp9809-a.htm> [Jan. 5, 1999]; Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 31st Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 1999), pp. 55, 56; and Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2000), pp. 57, 58. Information on the Youth Risk Behavior

Surveillance System was excerpted from Laura Kann et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--United States, 1999," CDC Surveillance Summaries, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 49 SS-5 (Washington, DC: USGPO, June 9, 2000), pp. 1, 3, 4. Information on the Alternative High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey was excerpted from Jo Anne Grunbaum et al., "Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance--National Alternative High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey, United States, 1998," CDC Surveillance Summaries, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 48 SS-7 (Washington, DC: USGPO, Oct. 29, 1999), pp. 1, 3, 4.

The sampling procedures of six public opinion surveys or survey organizations are presented in this appendix: The Gallup Poll, the Gallup/Phi Delta Kappa Education Poll, the Harris Poll, the National Opinion Research Center, the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, and the national Alternative High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

### GALLUP POLLS

All Gallup polls since 1950, excluding certain special surveys, have been based on a national probability sample of interviewing areas. Refinements in the sample design have been introduced at various points in time since then. However, over this period the design essentially has conformed to the current procedure, as described in the following paragraphs.

The United States is divided into seven size-of-community strata: cities of population 1,000,000 and over, 250,000 to 999,999, and 50,000 to 249,999, with the urbanized areas of all these cities forming a single stratum; cities of 2,500 to 49,999; rural villages; and farm or open country rural areas. Within each of these strata, the population is further divided into seven regions: New England, Middle Atlantic, East Central, West Central, South, Mountain, and Pacific Coast. Within each size-of-community and regional stratum the population is arrayed in geographic order and zoned into equal size groups of sampling units. Pairs of localities in each zone are selected with probability of selection proportional to the size of each locality's population--producing two replicated samples of localities.

Within selected cities for which population data are reported by census tracts or enumeration districts, these sample subdivisions are drawn with probability of selection proportional to the size of the population. For other cities, minor civil divisions, and rural areas in the sample for which population data are not reported by census tracts or

enumeration districts, small, definable geographic areas are drawn, with the probability of selection proportional to size where available data permit; otherwise with equal probability.

A block or block cluster is drawn with probability of selection proportional to the number of dwelling units from within each subdivision selected for which block statistics are available. In cities and towns for which block statistics are not available, blocks are drawn at random, that is, with equal probability. In subdivisions that are rural or open country in character, segments approximately equal in size of population are delineated and drawn with equal probability.

In each cluster of blocks and each segment so selected, a randomly selected starting point is designated on the interviewer's map of the area. Starting at this point, interviewers are required to follow a given direction in the selection of households, taking households in sequence, until their assigned number of interviews has been completed. Within each occupied dwelling unit or household reached, the interviewer asks to speak to the youngest male 18 or older at home, or if no male is at home, the oldest female 18 or older. This method of selection within the household has been developed empirically to produce an age distribution of males and females separately that compares closely with the age distribution of the population. It increases the probability of selecting younger males, who are at home relatively infrequently, and the probability of reaching older females in the household who tend to be under-represented unless given a disproportionate chance of being drawn from among those at home. The method of selection among those at home within the household is not strictly random, but it is systematic and objective, and eliminates interviewer judgment in the selection process. Interviewing is conducted at times when adults are most likely to be at home, which means on weekends or if on weekdays, after 4 p.m. for females and after 6 p.m. for males. Allowance for persons not at home is made by a "times-at-home" weighting procedure rather than by "call-backs." This procedure is a standard method for reducing the sample bias that would otherwise result from under-representation of persons who are difficult to find at home.

The pre-stratification by regions is routinely supplemented by fitting each obtained sample to the latest available U.S. Census Bureau estimates of the regional distribution of the population. Also, minor adjustments of the sample are made by educational attainment (for males and females separately), based on the annual estimates of the U.S. Census Bureau derived from their Current Population Survey. The sample procedure

described is designed to produce an approximation of the adult civilian population living in the United States, except for those persons in institutions such as prisons or hospitals. The four regions of the country, as reported in Gallup public opinion surveys, have been defined in the following manner:

**East**--Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia, District of Columbia;

**Midwest**--Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas;

**South**--Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas; and

**West**--Montana, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, California, Oregon, Washington, Hawaii, Alaska.

**Urbanization**--Central cities have populations of 50,000 and above. Suburbs constitute the fringe and include populations of 2,500 to 49,999. Rural areas are those that have populations of under 2,500.

**Race, ethnicity**--Nonwhite is comprised of individuals who report themselves as any combination of the following classifications: Hispanic, American Indian, other Indian, Asian, and black. Black and Hispanic are subcategories of nonwhite. However, due to variation in respondent reporting the category white may also include some Hispanics.

According to Gallup policy, if the interviewee does not hear or does not understand a question, the interviewer repeats the question and if on the second reading the person does not understand or does not get the point of the question, the interviewer checks the "no opinion" box. It should also be noted that seldom more than 10% of all those contacted refuse to be interviewed. Gallup Poll surveys of a nationwide sample usually include approximately 1,000 respondents.

#### Sampling error

All sample surveys are subject to sampling error, that is, the extent to which the results may differ from those that would be obtained if the entire population surveyed had been interviewed. The size of sampling errors depends largely on the number of interviews. The following table may be used in estimating sampling error. The computed allowances have taken into account the effect of the sample design upon sampling error. They may be interpreted as indicating

the range (plus or minus the figure shown) within which the results of repeated samplings in the same time period could be expected to vary, 95% of the time, assuming the same sampling procedure, the same interviewers, and the same questionnaire.

Recommended allowance for sampling error (plus or minus) at 95% confidence level

Percent- ages near	Sample size					
	1,000	750	600	400	200	100
10	2	3	3	4	5	7
20	3	4	4	5	7	9
30	4	4	4	6	8	10
40	4	4	5	6	8	11
50	4	4	5	6	8	11
60	4	4	5	6	8	11
70	4	4	4	6	8	10
80	3	4	4	5	7	9
90	2	3	3	4	5	7

The table would be used in the following manner: Assume a reported percentage is 33 for a group that includes 1,000 respondents. Proceed to row "Percentages near 30" in the table and then to the column headed, "1,000." The figure in this cell is four, which means that at the 95% confidence level, the 33% result obtained in the sample is subject to a sampling error of plus or minus four points.

#### PHI DELTA KAPPA/GALLUP POLL

The Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup polls are modified probability samples of adults, 18 years of age and older, living in the United States. The 1996 sample was comprised of 1,329 adults; interviewing took place May 2-22, 1996. The 1997 sample was comprised of 1,517 adults; interviewing took place June 3-22, 1997. The 1998 sample was comprised of 1,151 adults; interviewing took place June 5-23, 1998. The 1999 sample was comprised of 1,103 adults; interviewing took place May 18-June 11, 1999. The 2000 sample was comprised of 1,093 adults; interviewing took place June 5-29, 2000. The data collection design employed the Gallup Organization's standard national telephone sample, i.e., an unclustered, directory-assisted, random-digit telephone sample, based on a proportionate stratified sampling design. For further information on the survey sampling procedures see Lowell C. Rose and Alec M. Gallup, "The 32nd Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools," *Phi Delta Kappan* (September 2000), pp. 57, 58.

#### HARRIS POLLS

Harris Poll surveys are based on a national sample of the civilian population of the continental United States. Alaska and Hawaii are not represented in the sample, nor are those

in prisons, hospitals, or religious and educational institutions. The sample is based on census information on the population of each State in the country, and on the population living in standard metropolitan areas and in the rest of the country. These population figures are updated by intercensal estimates produced annually by the U.S. Census Bureau, and sample locations are selected biennially to reflect changes in the country's demographic profile.

National samples are stratified in two dimensions--geographic region and metropolitan (and non-metropolitan) residence. Stratification insures that the samples will reflect, within 1%, the actual proportions of those living in the country in different regions and metropolitan (and non-metropolitan) areas. Within each stratum the selection of the ultimate sampling unit is achieved through a series of steps, a process that is technically called multi-stage unclustered sampling. Each sampling unit yields one interview. First States, then counties, and then minor civil divisions (cities, towns, townships) are selected with probability proportional to census estimates of their respective household populations.

The Harris Poll survey has four of these national samples, and they are used in rotation from study to study. The specific sample locations in one study generally are adjacent to those used in the next study. For most surveys covering the entire country, more than one national sample may be employed. Harris Poll surveys of nationwide samples usually include approximately 1,250 respondents.

All interviews prior to 1978 were conducted in person, in the homes of respondents. At each household the respondent was chosen by means of a random selection pattern, geared to the number of adults of each sex who live in the household. Interviews lasted approximately 1 hour. Almost all interviews conducted as of 1978 have been telephone interviews. Respondents are selected on the basis of random digit dialing. When the completed interviews are received in New York, a subsample of the respondents are re-contacted to verify that the data have been accurately recorded. Questionnaires are edited and coded in the New York office. The Harris sampling procedure is designed to produce a national cross-section that accurately reflects the actual population of the country 18 years of age and older living in private households. This means that the results of a survey among a national sample can be projected as representative of the country's civilian population 18 years of age and older.

Harris Poll survey national results are reported for the East, Midwest, South, and



West regions of the country, defined as follows:

**East**--Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, West Virginia;

**Midwest**--North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio;

**South**--Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Florida, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas; and

**West**--Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico.

#### Sampling error

The results of the surveys are subject to sampling error, i.e., the difference between the results obtained from the sample and those that would be obtained by surveying the entire population. The size of a possible sampling error varies to some extent with the size of the sample and with the percentage giving a particular answer. The following table sets forth the range of error in samples of different sizes and at different percentages of response.

For example, if the response for a sample size of 1,200 is 30%, in 95 cases out of 100 the response in the population will be between 27% and 33%. This error accounts only for sampling error. Survey research also is susceptible to other errors, such as data handling and interview recording.

Recommended allowance for sampling error (plus or minus) at 95% confidence level

Re- sponse percent	Sample size					
	1,600	1,200	900	500	250	100
10(90)	2	2	2	3	5	7
20(80)	2	3	3	4	6	10
30(70)	3	3	4	5	7	11
40(60)	3	3	4	5	7	12
50	3	3	4	5	8	12

#### NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER

The National Opinion Research Center (NORC) maintains a national probability sample. The General Social Surveys (GSS) are interviews administered to the NORC national samples using a standard questionnaire. They have been conducted during February, March, and April from 1972 to 1978, 1980, 1982 to 1991, 1993, 1994, 1996, 1998, and 2000. There are a total of 40,933 completed interviews (1,613 in 1972; 1,504 in 1973; 1,484 in 1974; 1,490 in 1975; 1,499 in 1976; 1,530 in 1977; 1,532 in 1978;

1,468 in 1980; 1,506 and an oversample of 354 blacks in 1982; 1,599 in 1983; 1,473 in 1984; 1,534 in 1985; 1,470 in 1986; 1,466 and an oversample of 353 blacks in 1987; 1,481 in 1988; 1,537 in 1989; 1,372 in 1990; 1,517 in 1991; 1,606 in 1993; 2,992 in 1994; 2,904 in 1996; 2,832 in 1998; and 2,817 in 2000). Sampling frames are based on 1970 census information for surveys conducted in 1972-78, 1980, and 1982. For all interviews conducted from 1984-91, the national sampling frame was based on 1980 census information. A split sample transition design was used in the 1983 survey; one-half of the sample was drawn from the 1970 frame and one-half from the 1980 frame. Again in 1993, a split sample transition design was employed on the 1993 survey to measure the effect of switching from the 1980 sample frame to the 1990 sample frame. Half the sample was drawn from each frame. Beginning in 1994, the 1990 sample frame has been used. Since 1973, the median length of the interview has been about one and a half hours. This study employed standard field procedures for national surveys, including interviewer hiring and training by area supervisors in interviewing locations when necessary.

Each survey is an independently drawn sample of English-speaking persons 18 years of age and older, living in non-institutional arrangements within the United States. Alaska and Hawaii are not included in samples drawn from the 1970 sampling frame, but are represented in one-half of the 1983 surveys and all those conducted from 1984-2000. Block quota sampling was used in the 1972, 1973, and 1974 surveys and for half of the 1975 and 1976 surveys. Full probability sampling was employed in half of the 1975 and 1976 surveys and in all of the surveys conducted subsequent to 1976.

The sample is a multi-stage area probability sample to the block or segment level. At the block level, quota sampling is used with quotas based on sex, age, and employment status. The cost of the quota samples is substantially less than the cost of a full probability sample of the same size, but there is, of course, the chance of sample biases mainly due to not-at-homes, which are not controlled by the quotas. However, in order to reduce this bias, the interviewers are given instructions to canvass and interview only after 3:00 p.m. on weekdays or during the weekend or holidays. The first stage of sample selection includes selection of the Primary Sampling Units (PSUs). The PSUs employed are Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) or nonmetropolitan counties selected in NORC's Master Sample. These SMSAs and counties were stratified by region, age, and race before selection. The units of selection of the

second stage were block groups (BGs) and enumeration districts (EDs). These EDs and BGs were stratified according to race and income of the residents. The third stage of selection was that of blocks, which were selected with probabilities proportional to size. In places without block statistics, measures of size for the blocks were obtained by field counting. The average cluster size is five respondents per cluster.

The quotas call for approximately equal numbers of males and females with the exact proportion in each segment determined by the 1970 census tract data. For women, the additional requirement is imposed that there be the proper proportion of employed and unemployed females in the location. Again, these quotas are based on the 1970 census tract data. For males, the added requirement is that there be the proper proportion of males over and under age 35 in the location. Past experience suggests that, for most purposes, this quota sample of 1,500 could be considered as having about the same efficiency as a simple random sample of 1,000 cases.

The 1975 and 1976 studies were conducted with a traditional sample design, one-half full probability and one-half block quota. The sample was divided into two parts for several reasons: (1) to provide data for possibly interesting methodological comparisons; and (2) on the chance that there are some differences over time, that it would be possible to assign these differences to either shifts in sample designs, or changes in response patterns. Having allowed for the appearance of all items in the transitional sample design, the GSS then switched to a full probability sample beginning with the 1977 survey.

#### Rotation

Since its inception, the GSS has employed a *rotation design* under which most of its items appeared on two out of every three surveys. While this design proved to be useful for both monitoring change and augmenting the content of the GSS, it had the disadvantage of irregularly spacing the data and allowing gaps in the time series. This situation was particularly acute during 1978-82 because of the lack of funding for surveys in 1979 and 1981. At that juncture 4-year gaps regularly appeared in the data and 6-year lapses existed for bivariate correlations between items from different rotations. Even with annual surveys 2-year gaps and 3-year intervals for bivariate correlations occur. To reduce this imbalance in the time series and reduce the length of intervals, in 1988 the rotation, across-time design previously used was changed to a *split-ballot design*. Under this design rotations 1, 2, and 3 occur across random sub-samples within each

survey rather than across surveys (and years). Each sub-sample (known as ballots) consists of 1/3 of the sample. Permanent items are not affected by this switch. They continue to appear for all cases on all surveys. Rotating items now appear on all surveys and are asked of two-thirds of respondents on each survey. Over a 3-year cycle the same number of respondents are asked the "rotating" items as before (3,000), but instead of coming in two segments of 1,500 each from two surveys, they appear in three segments of 1,000 each from three surveys.

The 1993 GSS was the last survey conducted under this design. In 1994 two major innovations were introduced to the GSS.

First, the traditional core was substantially reduced to allow for the creation of mini-modules (i.e., blocks of about 15 minutes devoted to some combination of small- to medium-sized supplements). The mini-modules space provides greater flexibility to incorporate innovations and to include important items proposed by the social science community.

Second, a new biennial, split-sample design was used. The sample consists of two parallel sub-samples of approximately 1,500 cases each. The two sub-samples both contain the identical core. The A sample also contains a standard, topical module, the mini-modules, and an International Social Survey Program (ISSP) module (on women, work, and the family). The B sample has a second topical module, mini-modules, and an ISSP module (on the environment). In effect, one can think of the A sample as representing a traditional GSS for 1994 and the B sample representing a traditional GSS for 1995. Rather than being fielded separately in two different years they are fielded together.

Beginning in 1996, and in subsequent even-numbered years, the same design described for 1994 was repeated. In addition, in 1994 only, a transitional design was utilized to calibrate any impact of deletions from the core.

Survey results are reported for four regional categories, with the States classified in the following way:

**Northeast**--Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont;

**North Central**--Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin;

**South**--Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia,

Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia; **West**--Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

## **YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS) is conducted biennially by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and monitors priority health risk behaviors among youth and adults. The 1999 national school-based survey, a component of the YRBSS, employed a three-stage cluster sample design to produce a nationally representative sample of students in grades 9 through 12. The first-stage sampling frame contained 1,270 primary sampling units (PSUs), consisting of large counties or groups of smaller, adjacent counties. From the 1,270 PSUs, 52 were selected from 16 strata formed on the basis of the degree of urbanization and the relative percentage of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students in the PSU. The PSUs were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. At the second sampling stage, 187 schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. To enable separate analysis of black and Hispanic students, schools with substantial numbers of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students were sampled at higher rates than all other schools. The third stage of sampling consisted of randomly selecting one or two intact classes of a required subject (e.g., English or social studies) from grades 9 through 12 at each chosen school. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate in the study. The school response rate was 77% and the student response rate was 86%, for an overall response rate of 66%. A total of 15,349 questionnaires were completed in 144 schools.

A weighting factor was applied to each student record to adjust for nonresponse and for the varying probabilities of selection, including those resulting from the oversampling of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students. Numbers of students in racial/ethnic groups other than white (non-Hispanic), black (non-Hispanic), and Hispanic were too low for meaningful analysis. The weights were scaled so that the weighted count of students was equal to the total sample size and so that the weighted proportions of students in each grade matched national population proportions.

The data are representative of students in grades 9 through 12 in public and private

schools in the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

## **ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY**

The Alternative High School Youth Risk Behavior Survey (ALT-YRBS) was conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The ALT-YRBS is a component of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, described above. The 1998 ALT-YRBS is the first national survey measuring health-risk behaviors among students at alternative high schools. Alternative high schools serve students in grades 9 through 12 who are at high risk for failing or dropping out of regular high school or who have been expelled from regular high school because of illegal activity or behavior problems.

The 1998 ALT-YRBS used a three-stage cluster sample design to produce a nationally representative sample of students in grades 9 through 12 in the United States who attend alternative high schools. The target population consisted of 1,390 secondary schools in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. These schools included public, private, and Catholic schools that had designated themselves as alternative and: (a) contained at least one of the grades 9 through 12, (b) were not a school within another school, and (c) served students at risk for not graduating from regular high schools. Small schools, which make up less than 1% of the total enrollment of all alternative high schools, and vocational schools were excluded. The first-stage sampling frame included 121 primary sampling units (PSUs) consisting of groups of alternative high schools in close geographic proximity. From the 121 PSUs, 48 were selected without replacement, with probabilities proportional to school enrollment size and the relative percentage of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students in the PSU. For the second stage of sampling, 142 schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. To enable separate analysis of data for black and Hispanic students, schools with substantial numbers of black and Hispanic students were sampled at higher rates than all other schools. For the third stage of sampling, classes were randomly selected within each school, so that each student had an equal chance of being selected. A total of 8,918 students completed questionnaires in 115 schools. Of these schools, five (6% of students) served pregnant teenagers, 13 (8% of students) served adjudicated students, 17 (13% of students) served students with emotional or behavioral

problems, and 80 (74% of students) served multiple types of student populations. Thirteen (11% of students) of the 115 schools were residential facilities, one (1% of students) contained both residential and day treatment programs, and 101 (87% of students) were nonresidential.

The school response rate was 81%, and the student response rate was 81.9%, resulting in an overall response rate of 66.3%.

A weighting factor was applied to each student record to adjust for nonresponse and for varying probabilities of selection, including those resulting from the oversampling of black (non-Hispanic) and Hispanic students. Numbers of students in other racial/ethnic groups were too low for meaningful analysis. The weights were scaled so that the weighted count of students was equal to the total sample size and the weighted proportions of students in each grade matched national population proportions for students at alternative high schools.

The data are representative of students in grades 9 through 12 in public and private alternative high schools in the 50 States and the District of Columbia that serve students who are at high risk for failing or dropping out of regular high school and students who have been removed from their regular high school because of drug use, violence, or other illegal activity or behavioral problems.

## Appendix 5

### Monitoring the Future Survey methodology and definitions of terms

Note: The following information was excerpted from Lloyd D. Johnston, Jerald G. Bachman, and Patrick M. O'Malley, *Monitoring the Future 1995* (Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, 1997), pp. 2-11, 13, 14; Lloyd D. Johnston, Patrick M. O'Malley, and Jerald G. Bachman, *National Survey Results on Drug Use From the Monitoring the Future Study, 1975-2000*, Volumes I and II (Washington, DC: USGPO, forthcoming); and information provided by the Monitoring the Future Project. Non-substantive editorial adaptations have been made.

#### Survey methodology

The research design involves annual data collections from high school seniors during the spring of each year, beginning with the class of 1975. Each data collection takes place in approximately 130 public and private high schools selected to provide an accurate cross-section of high school seniors throughout the coterminous United States.

Since 1986, the results of a followup survey of those young adults 1 to 10 years beyond high school have been presented. These results should accurately characterize approximately 85% of the young adults in the class cohorts 1 to 10 years beyond high school who are high school graduates. The high school dropout segment, missing from the senior year surveys, also is missing from the followup segments.

Also, since 1980, the results of followup surveys of those high school students who have continued on to college have been presented. The college sample is limited to the most typical one for college attendance: 1 to 4 years past high school, which corresponds to the modal ages of 19 to 22 years old. This age category should encompass approximately 70% to 75% of all students enrolled in college full-time.

#### Sampling procedures

The procedure for securing a nationwide sample of high school seniors is a multi-stage one. Stage 1 is the selection of particular geographic areas, Stage 2 is the selection of one or more high schools in each area, and Stage 3 is the selection of seniors within each high school.

**Stage 1: Geographic areas.** The geographic areas used in this study are the primary sampling units (PSUs) developed by the Sampling Section of the Survey Research Center (SRC) for use in the Center's nationwide interview studies. These consist of 74 primary areas throughout the coterminous United States--including the 12 largest metropolitan areas, which contain about 30% of the Nation's population. Of the 62 other primary areas, 10 are in the Northeast, 18 in the North Central area, 24 in the South, and 10 in the West. Because these same PSUs are used for personal interview studies by the SRC, local field representatives can be assigned to administer the data collections in practically all schools.

**Stage 2: Schools.** In the major metropolitan areas more than one high school is often included in the sampling design; in most other sampling areas a single high school is sampled. In all cases, the selections of high schools are made such that the probability of drawing a school is proportionate to the size of its senior class. The larger the senior class (according to recent records), the higher the selection probability assigned to the high school. When a sampled school is unwilling to participate, a replacement school as similar to it as possible is selected from the same geographic area.

**Stage 3: Students.** Within each selected school, up to about 400 seniors may be included in the data collection. In schools with fewer than 400 seniors, the usual procedure is to include all of them in the data collection. In larger schools, a subset of seniors is selected either by randomly sampling classrooms or by some other random method that is convenient for the school and judged to be unbiased. Sample weights are assigned to each respondent so as to take account of variations in the sizes of samples from one school to another, as well as the (smaller) variations in selection probabilities occurring at the earlier stages of sampling.

The three-stage sampling procedure described above yielded the number of participating schools and students indicated in Table 1.

One limitation in the design is that it does not include in the target population those young men and women who drop out of high school before graduation (or before the last few months of the senior year, to be more precise). This excludes a relatively small proportion of each age cohort--between 15% and 20%. This is not an unimportant segment, since certain behaviors such as illicit drug use and delinquency tend to be higher than average in this group. However, the addition of a representative sample of dropouts would increase the cost of the present research enormously, because of

their dispersion and generally higher level of resistance to being located and interviewed.

For the purposes of estimating characteristics of the entire age group, the omission of high school dropouts does introduce certain biases; however, their small proportion sets outer limits on the bias. For the purposes of estimating changes from one cohort of high school seniors to another, the omission of dropouts represents a problem only if different cohorts have considerably different proportions who drop out. The Source has no reason to expect dramatic changes in those rates for the foreseeable future, and recently published government statistics indicate a great deal of stability in dropout rates since 1970.

Some may use the high school data to draw conclusions about changes for the entire age group. While the Source does not encourage such extrapolation, the Source suspects that the conclusions reached often would be valid, since over 80% of the age group is in the surveyed segment of the population and the Source expects that changes among those not in school are very likely to parallel the changes among those who are. Nevertheless, for purposes of characterizing the entire age group, the Source urges the user to compare the results from the present monitoring system with those from other data collection systems using different methods, such as household interviews.

One other important feature of the base-year sampling procedures should be noted. All schools (except for half of the initial 1975 sample) are asked to participate in two data collections, thereby permitting replacement of half of the total sample of schools each year. One motivation for requesting that schools participate for 2 years is administrative efficiency; it is a costly and time-consuming procedure to secure the cooperation of schools, and a 2-year period of participation cuts down that effort substantially. Another important advantage is that whenever an appreciable shift in scores from one graduating class to the next is observed, it is possible to compare whether the shift might be attributable to some differences in the newly sampled schools. This is done simply by repeating the analysis using only the 60 or so schools that participated both years. Thus far, the half-sample approach has worked quite well; and examination of drug prevalence data from the "matched half-samples" shows that the half samples of repeat schools yielded drug prevalence trends that were virtually identical to trends based on all schools.

## Questionnaire administration

Questionnaire administration in each school is carried out by the local SRC representatives and their assistants, following standardized procedures detailed in a project instruction manual. The questionnaires are administered in classrooms during normal class periods whenever possible, although circumstances in some schools require the use of larger group administrations. Teachers are not asked to do anything more than introduce the SRC staff members and (in most cases) remain in the classroom to help guarantee an orderly atmosphere for the survey. Teachers are urged to avoid walking around the room, so that students may feel free to write their answers without fear of being observed.

The actual process of completing the questionnaires is quite straightforward. Respondents are given sharpened pencils and asked to use them because the questionnaires are designed for automatic scanning. Most respondents can finish within a 45-minute class period; for those who cannot, an effort is made to provide a few minutes of additional time.

## Content areas and questionnaire design

Drug use and related attitudes are the topics that receive the most extensive coverage in the Monitoring the Future Project; but the questionnaires also deal with a wide range of other subject areas, including attitudes about government, social institutions, race relations, changing roles for women, educational aspirations, occupational aims, and marital and family plans, as well as a variety of background and demographic factors. The list below provides an outline of the 20 general subject areas into which all items are categorized. Given this breadth of content, the study is not presented to respondents as a "drug use study," nor do they tend to view it as such.

### Measurement content areas

**A. Drugs.** Drug use and related attitudes and beliefs, drug availability and exposure, surrounding conditions and social meanings of drug use. Views of significant others regarding drugs.

**B. Education.** Educational lifestyle, values, experiences, and environments.

**C. Work and leisure.** Vocational values, meaning of work and leisure, work and leisure activities, preferences regarding occupational characteristics and type of work setting.

**D. Sex roles and family.** Values, attitudes, and expectations about marriage, family structure, sex roles, and sex discrimination.

**E. Population concerns.** Values and attitudes about overpopulation and birth control.

**F. Conservation, materialism, equity, etc.** Values, attitudes, and expectations related to conservation, pollution, materialism, equity, and the sharing of resources. Preferences regarding type of dwelling and urbanicity.

**G. Religion.** Religious affiliation, practices, and views.

**H. Politics.** Political affiliation, activities, and views.

**I. Social change.** Values, attitudes, and expectations about social change.

**J. Social problems.** Concern with various social problems facing the Nation and the world.

**K. Major social institutions.** Confidence in and commitment to various major social institutions (business, unions, branches of government, press, organized religion, military, etc.).

**L. Military.** Views about the armed services and the use of military force. Personal plans for military service.

**M. Interpersonal relationships.** Qualitative and quantitative characteristics of cross-age and peer relationships. Interpersonal conflict.

**N. Race relations.** Attitudes toward and experiences with other racial groups.

**O. Concern for others.** Concern for others; voluntary and charitable activities.

**P. Happiness.** Happiness and life satisfaction, overall and in specific life domains.

**Q. Other personality variables.** Attitudes about self (including self-esteem), locus of control, loneliness, risk-taking, trust in others, importance placed on various life goals, counter-culture orientation, hostility.

**R. Background.** Demographic and family background characteristics, living arrangements.

**S. Deviant behavior and victimization.** Delinquent behaviors, driving violations and accidents (including those under the influence of drugs), victimization experiences.

**T. Health.** Health habits, somatic symptoms, medical treatments.

Because many questions are needed to cover all of these topic areas, much of the questionnaire content was divided into five different questionnaire forms in 1976-88 and six different questionnaire forms for 1989 and beyond, which are distributed to participants in an ordered sequence that produces virtually identical subsamples. About one-third of each questionnaire form consists of key or "core" variables that are common to all forms. All demographic variables and some measures of drug use are included in this "core" set of measures. This use of the full sample for drug and demographic measures provides a more accurate estimation on these dimensions and also makes it possible to link them statistically to all of the other measures that are included in a single form only.

### Representativeness and validity

The samples for this study are intended to be representative of high school seniors throughout the 48 coterminous States. As previously mentioned, this definition of the sample excludes one important portion of the age cohort: those who have dropped out of high school before nearing the end of the senior year. But given the aim of representing high school seniors, it is useful to consider the extent to which the obtained samples of schools and students are likely to be representative of all seniors and the degree to which the data obtained are likely to be valid.

There are at least four ways in which survey data of this sort might fall short of being fully accurate. First, some sampled schools refuse to participate, which could introduce some bias. Second, the failure to obtain questionnaire data from 100% of the students sampled in participating schools would also introduce bias. Third, the answers provided by participating students are open to both conscious and unconscious distortions, which could reduce validity. Finally, limitations in sample size and/or design could place limits on the accuracy of estimates.

### School participation

As noted in the description of the sampling design, schools are invited to participate in the study for a 2-year period. With very few exceptions, each school that has participated for one data collection has agreed to participate for a second. Thus far, approximately 65% of the schools initially invited to participate have agreed to do so each year; for each school refusal, a similar school (in terms of size, geographic area, urbanicity, etc.) was recruited as a replacement.

The selection of replacement schools almost entirely removes problems of bias in region, urbanicity, and the like that might result from certain schools refusing to participate. Other potential biases are more subtle, however. For example, if it turned out that most schools with "drug problems" refused to participate, that could seriously bias the drug estimates derived from the sample. And if any other single factor was dominant in most refusals, that also might suggest a source of serious bias. In fact, however, the reason for schools' refusals to participate are varied and largely a function of happenstance events of the particular year. Thus, there is a fair amount of confidence that school refusals have not seriously biased the surveys.

### **Student participation**

Completed questionnaires are obtained from approximately 83% of all students sampled. The single most important reason that students are missed is that they are absent from class at the time of data collection, and in most cases it is not workable to schedule a special followup data collection for them.

In addition to absenteeism, student nonparticipation occurs because of schedule conflicts with school trips and other activities that tend to be more frequent than usual during the final months of the senior year. Of course, some students refuse to complete or turn in a questionnaire. However, the SRC representatives in the field estimate this proportion to be only about 1%.

### **Research design for the surveys of lower grades**

Beginning in 1991 the study was expanded to include nationally representative samples of eighth and tenth grade students. In general, the procedures used for the annual surveys of eighth and tenth grade students closely parallel those used for high school seniors, including the procedures for selecting schools and students, questionnaire administrations, and questionnaire formats. A major exception is that only two different questionnaire forms were used in 1991-96 and four forms were used beginning in 1997, rather than the six forms used with seniors. Identical forms are used for both eighth and tenth grades, and, for the most part, questionnaire content is drawn from the twelfth grade questionnaires. Thus, key demographic variables and measures of drug use and related attitudes and beliefs are generally identical for all three grades. Fewer questions about lifestyles and values are included in these forms than in the twelfth grade forms, in part because it is believed that many of these attitudes are more likely to be formed by twelfth grade, and therefore are best monitored there. For the national survey of eighth graders,

approximately 160 schools are sampled, and approximately 17,000 to 19,000 students are surveyed. For the tenth graders, approximately 130 schools are sampled, and approximately 15,000 students are surveyed. (See Table 2.)

### **Research design for the followup surveys after high school**

Beginning with the graduating class of 1976, each class is followed up and surveyed each year after high school for seven followup data collections. From the approximately 15,000 to 17,000 seniors originally participating in a given class, a representative sample of 2,400 individuals was chosen for followup. In order to ensure sufficient numbers of drug users in the followup surveys, those fitting certain criteria of current drug use (that is, those reporting 20 or more uses of marijuana or use of any of the other illicit drugs in the previous 30 days) were selected with higher probability (by a factor of 3.0) than the remaining seniors. Differential weighting is used in all followup analyses to compensate for the differential sampling probabilities.

The 2,400 selected respondents from each class were randomly assigned to one of two matching groups of 1,200 each; one group was surveyed on even-numbered calendar years, while the other group was surveyed on odd-numbered years. This biannual procedure was intended to reduce respondent burden.

### **Followup procedures**

Using information provided by respondents at the time of the senior survey (name, address, phone number, and the name and address of someone who would always know how to reach them), students selected for the panels were contacted by mail. Newsletters were sent each year, and name and address corrections were requested. Questionnaires were sent by certified mail in the spring of each year. A check for \$5.00 made out to the respondent was attached to the front. Beginning with the class of 1992, the followup checks have been raised to \$10.00 to compensate for the effects of inflation over the life of the study. Reminder letters and post cards went out at fixed intervals thereafter and finally, those not responding received a prompting phone call from the Survey Research Center's phone interviewing facility in Ann Arbor, MI. If requested, a second copy of the questionnaire was sent.

### **Panel retention rates**

To date, the panel retention rates have remained quite high. In the first followup

after high school, about 80% of the original panel returned questionnaires. The retention rate decreases ordinally with time; however, the 2000 panel retention from the class of 1986--the oldest of the panels, now age 32 (14 years past their first data collection in high school)--is 53%.

Since attrition is to a modest degree associated with drug use, corrections to the prevalence estimates are presented for the followup panels. These raise the prevalence estimates from what they would be uncorrected, but only slightly. It is believed that the resulting estimates are the most accurate obtainable, but still low for the age group as a whole due to the omission of dropouts and absentees from the population covered by the original panels.

### **Validity of self-report data**

Survey measures of delinquency and drug use depend upon respondents reporting what are, in many cases, illegal acts. Thus, a critical question is whether such self-reports are likely to be valid. Like most studies dealing with these areas, there is no direct, objective validation of the present measures; however, the considerable amount of inferential evidence that exists strongly suggests that the self-report questions produce largely valid data. A number of factors suggest a reasonable amount of confidence about the validity of the responses to what are presumably among the most sensitive questions in the study: a low nonresponse on the drug question, a large proportion admitting to some illicit drug use, the consistency of findings across several years of the present study, strong evidence of construct validity (based on relationships observed between variables), a close match between these data and the findings from other studies using other methods, and the findings from several methodological studies that have used objective validation methods.

### **Accuracy of the sample**

A sample survey never can provide the same level of accuracy as would be obtained if the entire target population were to participate in the survey--in the case of the present study, about 2.8 million seniors per year. But perfect accuracy of this sort would be extremely expensive and certainly not worthwhile considering the fact that a high level of accuracy can be provided by a carefully designed probability sample. The accuracy of the sample in this study is affected both by the size of the student sample and by the number of schools in which they are clustered. Virtually all estimates based on the total sample have confidence intervals of plus or minus 1.5

percentage points or smaller--sometimes considerably smaller.

### Interpreting racial differences

Data are given for the two largest racial/ethnic subgroups in the population--those who identify themselves as white or Caucasian and those who identify themselves as black or African-American. Data are not given for the other ethnic categories (American Indians, Asian Americans, Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, or other Latin Americans) since each of these groups comprises a small percentage of the sample in any given year, which means that their small Ns (in combination with their clustered groupings in a limited number of schools) would yield estimates that would be too unreliable. In fact, even blacks--who constitute approximately 12% of each year's sample--are represented by only 350 to 425 respondents per year on any single questionnaire form. Further, because the sample is a stratified clustered sample, it yields less accuracy than would be yielded by a pure random sample of equal size. Therefore, because of the limited number of cases, the margin of sampling error around any statistic describing blacks is larger than for most other subgroups described in this survey.

There are factors in addition to unreliability, however, that could be misleading in the interpretation of racial differences. Given the importance that has been placed on various racial differences reported in the social science literature, the reader is cautioned to consider the various factors that could account for differences. These factors fall into three categories: differential representation in the sample, differential response tendencies, and the confounding of race with a number of other background and demographic characteristics.

**Differential representation**--A smaller segment of the black population than of the white population of high school age is represented by the data contained here. Insofar as any characteristic is associated with being a school dropout or absentee, it is likely to be somewhat disproportionately underrepresented among blacks in the sample.

**Differential response tendencies**--In examining the full range of variables, certain racial differences in response tendencies were noted. First, the tendency to state agreement in response to agree-disagree questions is generally somewhat greater among blacks than among whites.

There also is a somewhat greater than average tendency for black respondents to select extreme answer categories on

attitudinal scales. For example, even if the same proportion of blacks as whites felt positively (or negatively) about some subject, fewer whites are likely to say they feel very positively (or very negatively). In the process of interpreting racial differences, the reader should be aware that differences in responses to particular questions may be related to these more general tendencies.

A somewhat separate issue in response tendency is a respondent's willingness to answer particular questions. An exaggerated missing data rate for black males on the set of questions dealing with the respondent's own use of illicit drugs has been observed. Clearly, a respondent's willingness to be candid on such questions depends on his or her trust of the research process and of the researchers themselves. The reader is advised to check for exceptional levels of missing data when making comparisons on any variable in which candor is likely to be reduced by lower system trust. One bit of additional evidence related to trust in the research process is that higher proportions of blacks than whites indicated that if they had used marijuana or heroin they would not have been willing to report it in the survey.

**Covariance with other factors**--Some characteristics such as race are highly confounded (correlated) with other variables--variables that may in fact explain some observed racial differences. Put another way, at the aggregate level one might observe a considerable racial difference on some characteristic, but once one controls for certain background characteristics such as socioeconomic level or region of the country--that is, comparing the black respondents with whites who come from similar backgrounds--there may be no racial difference at all.

### Definitions of terms

**Drug types**--Definitions or identifiers used in survey forms include:

- Marijuana--pot, grass or hashish;
- Other psychedelics--mescaline, peyote, psilocybin, PCP;
- Amphetamines--uppers, pep pills, bennies, speed;
- Quaaludes--quads, methaqualone;
- Barbiturates--downers, goofballs, reds, yellows;
- Heroin--smack, horse;
- Other narcotics--methadone, opium, codeine, paregoric;
- Inhalants--glue, aerosols, laughing gas;
- Tranquilizers--Librium, Valium, Miltown.

Beginning with the 1979 survey, amyl and butyl nitrites were considered "other inhalants" for questions on one alternate survey form (N=one-fifth of total sample size in 1979-88 and N is one-sixth of total sample size in 1989-2000). This change was made

because not all users of this subclass of inhalants were reporting themselves as inhalant users. Hallucinogen use had been similarly underestimated because some users of the hallucinogenic drug PCP do not report themselves as users of hallucinogens--even though PCP was included as an example of a hallucinogenic drug in earlier surveys and on other questions. The alternate questionnaire form contained a special set of questions about PCP that provided other street names for it (e.g., angel dust). As a result of these definition changes, since 1979 data for drug use in these two drug classes have been adjusted for underreporting. For more information, see the Source.

**Four-year college plans**--Percentage distributions are given separately for (1) respondents who indicate that they "definitely will" or "probably will" graduate from a four-year college program and (2) those who say that they "definitely won't" or "probably won't" graduate from a four-year college program. Respondents not responding are omitted from both columns. A number of those who do not expect to complete a four-year college program do expect to get some post-secondary education.

**Illicit drug use: Lifetime**--Percentage distributions are given separately for five mutually exclusive subgroups differentiated by their degree of involvement with illicit drugs. Eligibility for each category is defined below.

**None**--This column contains data from respondents who indicated that they had not used marijuana at any time and did not report use of any of the following illicit drugs in their lifetime: LSD, other psychedelics, cocaine, amphetamines, tranquilizers, methaqualone, barbiturates, heroin, or other narcotics.

**Marijuana only**--This column contains data from other respondents who indicated that they had used marijuana (or hashish) but had never used any of the other illicit drugs listed above.

**Few pills**--This column contains data from respondents who indicated having used one or more of the above listed drugs (other than marijuana) but who had not used any one class of them on three or more occasions and who had not used heroin at all.

**More pills**--This column contains data from respondents who had used any of the above listed drugs (other than marijuana) on three or more occasions but who had never used heroin.

**Any heroin**--This column contains data from respondents who indicated having used heroin on one or more occasions in their lifetime.

**Race**--Percentage distributions are given separately for those describing

themselves as "white or Caucasian" and "black or African-American." Comparable data for the other racial or ethnic groups (Mexican Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, etc.) are not shown because of the low number of cases in each group.

**Region**--Percentage distributions are given separately for respondents living in each of four mutually exclusive regions of the country. The regional classifications are based on U.S. Census Bureau categories and are defined as follows:

**Northeast**--Census classifications of New England and Middle Atlantic States; includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

**North Central**--Census classifications of East North Central and West North Central States; includes Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

**South**--Census classifications of South Atlantic, East South Central, and West South Central States; includes Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas.

**West**--Census classifications of Mountain and Pacific States; includes Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Washington, Oregon, and California.

**Sex**--Percentage distributions are given separately for males and females. Respondents with missing data on the question asking the respondent's sex are omitted from both groupings.

**Weighted number of cases (N)**--The number of cases is stated in terms of the weighted number of respondents rather than the actual number, since all percentages have been calculated using weighted cases. The actual number of respondents is about 15% higher than the weighted number for data collected in 1975, 1976, and 1977. For data collected in 1978 or later, the actual number of respondents is roughly equal to the weighted number. Weighting is used to improve the accuracy of estimates by correcting for unequal probabilities of selection that arise in the multi-stage sampling procedures. Table 3 presents the number of weighted cases for each subgroup of the high school seniors samples.



**Table 1. Sample sizes and student response rates for high school seniors**

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Number of public schools	113	111	114	117	120	121	119	120	118	125	124	124	116
Number of private schools	19	22	23	19	18	18	20	24	21	21	20	19	18
Total number of schools	132	133	137	136	138	139	139	144	139	146	144	143	134
Actual number of participating students <sup>a</sup>	16,795	17,142	15,676	15,483	16,251	16,763	15,929	15,876	14,824	15,963	15,780	14,056	13,286
Student response rate (percent) <sup>b</sup>	83	86	86	83	84	84	84	84	83	83	82	83	83

<sup>a</sup>Sample weights are assigned to each respondent to correct for unequal probabilities of selection that arise in the multi-stage sampling procedure.

<sup>b</sup>The student response rate is derived by dividing the attained sample by the target sample (both based on weighted numbers of cases). The target sample is based on listings provided by schools. Because such listings may fail to take account of recent student attrition, the actual response rate may be slightly underestimated.

**Table 2. Sample sizes and student response rates for eighth and tenth grades**

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
<u>Tenth grade</u>										
Number of public schools	107	106	111	116	117	113	113	110	117	121
Number of private schools	14	19	17	14	22	20	18	19	23	24
Total number of schools	121	125	128	130	139	133	131	129	140	145
Total number of participating students <sup>a</sup>	14,996	14,997	15,516	16,080	17,285	15,873	15,778	15,419	13,885	14,576
Student response rate (percent) <sup>b</sup>	87	88	86	88	87	87	86	87	85	86
<u>Eighth grade</u>										
Number of public schools	131	133	126	116	118	122	125	122	120	125
Number of private schools	31	26	30	34	34	30	27	27	30	31
Total number of schools	162	159	156	150	152	152	152	149	150	156
Total number of participating students <sup>a</sup>	17,844	19,015	18,820	17,708	17,929	18,368	19,066	18,667	17,287	17,311
Student response rate (percent) <sup>b</sup>	90	90	90	89	89	91	89	88	87	89

<sup>a</sup>Sample weights are assigned to each respondent to correct for unequal probabilities of selection that arise in the multi-stage sampling procedure.

<sup>b</sup>The student response rate is derived by dividing the attained sample by the target sample (both based on weighted numbers of cases). The target sample is based on listings provided by schools. Because such listings may fail to take account of recent student attrition, the actual response rate may be slightly underestimated.

**Table 3. Weighted sample sizes in subgroups for high school seniors**

	Class of 1988	Class of 1989	Class of 1990	Class of 1991	Class of 1992	Class of 1993	Class of 1994	Class of 1995	Class of 1996	Class of 1997	Class of 1998	Class of 1999	Class of 2000
Total sample	16,795	17,142	15,676	15,483	16,251	16,251	15,389	15,876	14,824	15,963	15,780	14,056	13,286
<u>Sex</u>													
Male	7,861	8,156	7,862	7,617	7,582	7,582	6,918	7,293	6,806	7,269	7,286	6,485	5,991
Female	8,342	8,471	7,241	7,277	8,053	8,053	7,957	7,891	7,261	7,793	7,618	6,804	6,492
<u>Race</u>													
White	12,051	12,250	11,410	10,754	11,029	11,029	10,656	11,012	9,890	10,210	10,280	9,499	8,447
Black	2,063	2,038	1,614	1,757	2,244	2,244	1,671	1,693	1,719	2,001	1,885	1,692	1,707
<u>Region</u>													
Northeast	3,348	3,305	3,358	2,862	2,887	2,887	2,695	2,881	3,122	3,405	2,952	2,572	2,616
North Central	4,435	4,589	4,284	4,089	4,529	4,529	4,031	4,380	3,878	4,249	3,948	3,668	3,252
South	5,753	6,255	5,262	5,330	5,787	5,787	5,636	5,593	5,345	5,469	5,928	5,108	4,687
West	3,260	2,992	2,773	3,202	3,048	3,048	3,027	3,022	2,479	2,839	2,952	2,708	2,732
<u>College plans</u>													
Complete 4 years	10,774	11,108	10,245	10,402	11,339	11,339	11,064	11,396	10,954	11,226	11,260	10,344	9,471
None or under 4 years	4,822	4,889	4,332	4,089	3,813	3,813	3,424	3,351	2,746	3,342	3,157	2,848	2,654
<u>Illicit drug use</u>													
None	7,606	8,253	8,006	8,464	9,441	9,441	8,395	7,996	7,101	7,054	7,024	6,206	5,917
Marijuana only	3,605	3,374	2,901	2,657	2,523	2,523	2,854	3,255	3,254	3,835	3,818	3,483	3,210
Few pills	2,133	2,057	1,872	1,742	1,757	1,757	1,736	1,756	1,654	1,708	1,710	1,467	1,348
More pills	2,896	2,889	2,380	2,128	1,974	1,974	2,221	2,247	2,149	2,532	2,443	2,252	2,056
Any heroin	186	222	194	141	199	199	171	250	263	320	301	283	316

Note: Data for 1988 are based on five questionnaire forms; Ns for one-form questions are approximately one-fifth of the total sample N. Data for 1989-2000 are based on six questionnaire forms; Ns for one-form questions are approximately one-sixth of the total sample N.

## Appendix 6

### National Household Survey on Drug Abuse Survey methodology

Note: The following information was excerpted from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, **National Household Survey on Drug Abuse: Population Estimates 1998** (Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 1999), pp. 1-13; and **National Household Survey on Drug Abuse: Main Findings 1998** (Rockville, MD: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2000), pp. 7-13, Appendices A, B, D, E. Non-substantive editorial adaptations have been made.

#### Survey methodology

The National Household Survey on Drug Abuse (NHSDA) is an ongoing series of annual national surveys measuring the prevalence of drug, alcohol, and tobacco product use among the American household population age 12 and older. Estimates of drug use prevalence for the civilian, noninstitutionalized population of the United States are presented.

The NHSDA is based on a stratified, multistage area probability sample. A national probability sample of dwelling units was selected in 1998 from the same 115 primary sampling units (PSUs) used since 1988, plus 24 supplemental PSUs. PSUs are defined as counties or groups of counties, such as metropolitan areas. As did the 1991-97 NHSDAs, the 1998 sample design used a composite size measure methodology and a specially designed within-dwelling unit selection procedure to meet specified precision constraints for subgroups defined by age, race, and ethnicity. The sample design oversampled blacks, Hispanics, and young people to improve the accuracy of estimates for those populations. Sampling involved several selection stages: the selection of PSUs (e.g., counties), subareas (blocks or block groups) within these primary areas, sample dwelling units within subareas, age domains within sampled dwelling units, and eligible residents (if any) within the sampled age domains.

The target population included all civilian residents of households (including civilians residing on military installations) and noninstitutional group quarters (e.g.,

college dormitories, homeless shelters, rooming houses) 12 years of age and older. Persons excluded from the universe are military personnel on active duty, transient populations (such as homeless people who do not reside in shelters), and residents of institutional group quarters (e.g., jails, hospitals, etc.). Data collection was continuous over the calendar year with approximately one-fourth of the sample allocated to each quarter.

Survey data were collected through personal visits to each selected residence. Introductory letters were mailed to each residence, explaining the survey prior to the interviewer's visit. To reduce the number of required screenings, two selections per household were allowed. In each selected dwelling unit, a roster recording the age, race/ethnicity, gender, and marital status of all household members age 12 and older was completed. Two, one, or no household members were selected to be interviewed using a random sampling procedure, with selection probabilities based on the race/ethnicity of the head of household and the ages of household members. The procedure was designed to ensure adequate sample sizes for the four age groups (12 to 17, 18 to 25, 26 to 34, and 35 or older) and the three racial/ethnic groups (Hispanic, black, and white). Selected individuals were then asked if they would complete a voluntary interview. NHSDA field representatives conducted the interviews using a paper and pencil questionnaire that included both interviewer-administered questions and self-administered answer sheets (for collection of sensitive information). All screening and interview responses are kept confidential.

In 1998, a total of 33,128 eligible dwelling unit members were selected for an interview; of these, a total of 25,500 interviews were completed. Response rates for screening and interviewing were 93% and 77%, respectively.

Age and race/ethnicity were the two primary correlates of drug use on which the samples were stratified. The sample design ensured adequate sample sizes for four age groups and three race/ethnicity groups. This oversampling allowed certain subgroups to be large enough to support estimation. Based on the respondents' self-classifications the race/ethnicity groups were classified as: (1) Hispanic in origin, regardless of race; (2) white, not of Hispanic origin; and (3) black, not of Hispanic origin. As defined, these groups are mutually exclusive. Those who did not identify themselves as Hispanic, non-Hispanic white, or non-Hispanic black were included in the category "other." This includes American Indians, Alaska Natives, Pacific

Islanders, Asians, and other groups. Separate estimates are not provided for this category because the sample size is too small.

The NHSDA surveys have used basically the same multistage area probability sample design that has been employed since the 1988 survey. However, in some survey years, oversampling was used to meet specified precision constraints for certain subpopulations. The 1993 through 1998 NHSDAs oversampled Hispanics in areas of high Hispanic concentration to reduce survey costs. In addition, the 1993 through 1995 NHSDAs oversampled cigarette smokers ages 18 to 34.

Beginning with the 1997 study, data from a special supplemental sample were collected beginning with the second quarter of data collection. This supplemental sample was designed to increase the number of respondents who reside in California and Arizona in order to measure the impact of voter initiatives to legalize certain drugs for medical purposes. In 1998, of the 25,500 interviews completed, 4,903 interviews were conducted in California and 3,869 were conducted in Arizona. The final sample weights for NHSDA respondents were appropriately adjusted to account for this supplemental sample, thereby eliminating any potential bias in estimates that might otherwise exist.

A revised questionnaire and editing procedure were introduced beginning with the 1994 NHSDA. Data for 1994 through 1998 presented in SOURCEBOOK are based on the new questionnaire; data for years prior to 1994 presented in SOURCEBOOK have been adjusted by the Source in order to facilitate trend presentations (see discussion on next page).

In addition, beginning in 1991, the survey differs from previous years in two ways: Alaska and Hawaii were included in the sample and some individuals living in group quarters (e.g., civilians living on military installations, individuals living in college dormitories, rooming houses, and homeless shelters) were included.

#### Development of weights

An analysis weight was calculated for each completed interview to reflect selection probabilities and to compensate for nonresponse and undercoverage. Poststratification adjustments are made to force the respondent weight totals to equal U.S. Census Bureau projections for the civilian, noninstitutionalized population according to age group, sex, race, and Hispanic origin. Each weight can be viewed as the number of U.S. population members that the responding sample member represents.

**Table 1.** 1998 NHSDA sample size and U.S. population represented, by demographic characteristics

	1998	
	Sample	Population
Total	25,500	218,444,761
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	11,261	105,197,605
Female	14,239	113,247,156
<b>Race, ethnicity</b>		
White	11,709	161,991,470
Black	5,815	24,775,260
Hispanic	6,795	22,342,431
Other	1,181	9,335,601
<b>Age</b>		
12 to 17	6,778	22,740,443
18 to 25	7,318	27,965,867
26 to 34	4,537	34,602,931
35 years and older	6,867	133,135,519
<b>Region</b>		
Northeast	3,121	42,354,805
North Central	3,680	51,140,084
South	8,504	77,329,477
West	10,195	47,620,394

Note: Sample size is the unweighted number of respondents in the 1998 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse. These 1998 population projections are based on the 1990 U.S. Census Bureau counts.

#### Adjusting for nonresponse through imputation

The prevalence estimates are based on the total sample or all cases in a subgroup, including some cases for which missing data for some recency-of-use and frequency-of-use variables were replaced with logically or statistically imputed (replaced) values. Prior to determining the completeness of a case, an editing procedure is implemented to check for inconsistencies and to determine if missing information is retrievable by using other information in the questionnaire. Logical imputation also is employed to replace other inconsistent, missing, or invalid data. Determination of completeness of a case is then made. To be classified as a minimally complete interview, and therefore included in the database, data on the recency of use of alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine had to have been provided by the respondent or logically imputed from other answers supplied by the respondent.

For some key variables that still had missing values after the application of logical imputation, statistical imputation was used to replace the missing responses with appropriate valid response

codes. Data still missing for recency-of-use questions (for drugs other than alcohol, cocaine, and marijuana) were statistically imputed using a technique known as "hot deck imputation." The first step in this procedure involves sorting the data file progressively using data on recency-of-use of alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine; age; sex; Hispanic origin; race; and a State indicator variable. The hot deck imputation procedure replaces a missing item on a particular record by the last encountered nonmissing response for that item (from the previous record) on the sorted database. This procedure is appropriate for recency-of-use and demographic variables because the level of item nonresponse is low. Missing data for personal and family income items and the frequency-of-use-in-the-past-12-months for alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine are statistically imputed using a logistic model based method of imputation. The potential for bias due to item nonresponse or imputation is minimal because item nonresponse is less than 2% for drug use recency questions.

#### Sampling error and confidence intervals

In the National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, as in every sample survey, there is some degree of statistical uncertainty or error. The estimates provided are subject to uncertainties of two types: nonsampling and sampling errors. Some sources of nonsampling error are recording and coding errors, nonresponse, computer processing errors, differences in respondents' interpretations of questions, and purposely false answers. Nonsampling errors cannot be quantified, however, rigorous attempts are made to minimize their occurrence through pretesting, interviewer training and evaluation, interview verification, coder training, coding verification, and other quality control measures.

Sampling errors denote the random fluctuations that occur in estimates when a sample of the population is drawn rather than conducting a complete census. Different samples drawn using the same procedures from the same population would be expected to result in different estimates. Many of these observed estimates would differ to some degree from the "true" population value and these differences are due to sampling error. The variance of an estimate is the measure of this type of error.

#### Regions

**North Central**--Includes the East North Central States--Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin; and the West North Central States--Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

**Northeast**--Includes the New England States--Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont; and the Middle Atlantic States--New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania.

**South**--Includes the South Atlantic States--Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia; the East South Central States--Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, and Tennessee; and the West South Central States--Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, and Oklahoma.

**West**--Includes the Mountain States--Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming; and the Pacific States--Alaska, California, Hawaii, Oregon, and Washington.

#### Adjustment procedures for trend data

Beginning in 1994, the NHSDA began using an improved questionnaire and estimation procedure based on a series of studies and consultations with drug survey experts and data users. When the new questionnaire was introduced in 1994, a supplemental sample was selected for use with the old methodology (i.e., a questionnaire identical to previous years). This provided the capability to assess the impact of the new questionnaire and to measure the effects of the change in methodology. Because this new methodology produces estimates that are not directly comparable to previous estimates, the 1985-93 NHSDA estimates presented in tables 3.89-3.91 and 3.95 were adjusted to account for the new methodology that was implemented in 1994. The substance use prevalence estimates, for nearly all of the substances presented, were adjusted using a simple ratio correction factor. The simple ratio correction factor measured the effect of the new methodology, relative to the old methodology, using data from the 1993 and 1994 NHSDAs. For the remaining substances, the prevalence estimates were adjusted by using a model-based method. Similar to the ratio adjustment, this method of adjusting previous estimates models the combined effect of all measurement error differences between the new and old methodologies.